C.40.c25

WITS, Fits, and Fancies:

Or,

A generall and ſerious Collection, *of the Sententious Speeches, Anſwers,* Ieſts, and Behauiours, of all ſortes of Eſtates, From the Throane to the Cottage.

Being properly reduced to their ſeuerall heads, for the more eaſe to the Reader.

Newly Corrected and augmented, with many late, true, and wittie accidents.

Muſica mentis, medesina Meſtus.

LONDON
Printed by *Edw: Allde*, dwelling in little *Saint Bartholmewes*, neer Chriſt-Church. 1614.

To the curtious Reader.

SInce the naturall inclination of our corrupt affections (curteous and indifferent Reader) is inamored of nothing so much as of Variety, (the eye as it were being become the soules Soueraigne) & this Variety so gouern'd by a flegmaticke inconstant Tutor, that things of the least value (if various) are of high price, nay almost like Diamonds (of many carroots) boundlesse in estimation: And since of all the varieties with which we feast and surfeit our mindes, Iests (though cloathed in fooliſh, filthy, or vnfit garments) haue got the most eminent and preeedent place in mens soules; some pryzing their friends lesse then their follies, & some giuing more for a little gall of wit then for all the hony of learned wisedome: What can a man better present both to giue contentment, & some cure to these false shapes then this Treatise, which hauing beene collected many yeares a goe, and generally receiued with all the applause and liking due to so witty a speaker, is now for your better recreation, newly augmented & adorned with many excellent and note-worthy

Eſſayes of wit: In this (which is indeed a meere Rapſody of wit) men may learne how to jeſt without hurt, how to exerciſe wit without ſlaunder, and how to be harmleſly pleaſant without ribaldry, or the filth of vnwaſh'd wordes; each man hauing before his eye a preſident of modeſty and goodneſſe, ſo ſeaſoned with theſe *Sales* or good ſalts of vertue, that no mirth can appere worthy which wants their ſeaſoning; It was before good, and then eſteemed, it is now ſomewhat better, and therefore needes but begge to ſike what hath and will be allowed.

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Farewell.

WITS, FITS, & Fancies.

Of Kings & Princes.

Lonso *de Valentia* hauing yeilded to Ferdinando King of Spayne the Fort of Samora, it pleased the King (at his entrie thereinto) to view the king of Portugals rich wardrob there: where hauing surueide a good space all his royall Robes and Jewells, he refused in the end to ransacke it, neither would he bestow any one garment or Jewell vpon any of his Followers: whereupon, a Gallant then standing by, thus said vnto him. Pleaseth your Maiesty, the King of Portugal hath not forborne any rapine that euer he could attaine vnto, either vpon your Graces proper goods, or any of your subiects, and will your Maiesty then deigne to deale thus ciuilly with him? Whereunto the King answered: All that I desire of my Nephew of Portugal, is but to take away the bad conceipts and opinions of his will, and not the attyres of his person.

A Portugal deliuered a Forte to the forsaid Ferdinando King of Spaine, & being shortly after with the King in other seruice against his Countrymen (who very brauely defended their holde) he said vnto him: And if like your Maiesty I rendred you my Fort with halfe this adoe: Yea mary (answered the King) and therefore had I rather trust this defendants sonnes with my Fortes, then yours.

A Portugal Gentleman besought his King of a protection against certaine his enemies, who had vowed his death: The King thereunto condiscended, and gaue it him. Shortly after he came againe vnto the King, and complained to him of the great feare he went in, notwithstanding his protection: whereunto the King answered, From feare I cannot protect you.

The Duke of Nazareth, comming to the Court todoe his duty to the Emperour, in most rich & sumptuous robes, and his Liueries most gallant: The Empresse seeing him out at a windowe, said: It seemeth that Nazareth comes rather to be seene of vs, then to see vs.

A Moore King of Granada, called Chiquito, yeilded the said towne to Ferdinando King of Spaine, vpon composition: and being marched away with his troops a mile or two from thence, made a stand, and from a high Hill turned backe to view the towne, as his last farewell thereunto: and beholding it, he fell a weeping, and said: Better had I lost my life then so faire a towne. His Mother hereunto answered: You doe well (Sonne) to weepe like a woman, seeing you did not defend it like a man.

A Moore King shewing his Nobles much treasure, and a great heape of Iewels, they all commended his Maiesty for so rich spoyles ouer his enemies: And one amongst the rest said: And it like your Maiesty, how great a felicity were all this, if a man were to liue euer: The King answered: You haue spoken very fondly, for were not men mortall

mortall, I had neuer been King.

FErdinando King of Spaine, asked Auennamer a Moore King (his prisoner) how he liued so long, being a man of great yeares? He answered, I neuer stood when I might sit, I maryed late, I was a widower betimes, and I meane neuer to marrie more.

SAlladine the Moor, that last of all wonne Ierusalem from the Christians, dying: commaunded a winding sheet to be borne in pompe at his Funerall, vpon the poynt of a Launce, and a Herald to pronounce (aloud) these wordes: Salladine great Lord of Asia, of all his wealth & glory, onely this winding sheet he caryeth away with him.

FErdinando King of Spaine, made choice of a gentleman, who was none of the best of sight, to employ him in an especiall affaire: But the Queene entreated the King to chuse some fitter person, namely, one of a better sight: The King would not, but employed him, who very happily effected the affaire. Shortly after, the King vsing him in another peece of seruice, it was the Gentlemans chance to haue ill successe therin: Whereupon, at his vnluckie returne, the Queene commaunded her Treasurer to giue him two hundreth pounds for his paynes. The Treasurer meruailing why her Maiestie was so bountifull to one, whom she so ill conceited, and had so ill deseru'd, The Queene said: As for his former seruice, in that he did it wel, he did it out of kinde: but now that he hath failed herein, I tell you, he hath duly done his kinde, and fitted my expectation.

ISabell Queene of Spaine, willed a Gentleman to buy her a Nag of such a proportion, and of such a colour: The Gentleman not finding any such, presented her with a most goodly Horse and a Mare, but she still demanding the aforesaid Nag, at last he answered. And it like your Maiesty, such a Nag I can not finde, and therefore doe heere present you this Horse and Mare: May it but please your Grace

to bid them engender you such a Dog as you would haue, and I dare say they will doe it in the best manner.

THe aforesaid Queene of Spaine wonted to say, that every ones good gesture is a letter in his commendation.

PHilip the first, King of Spaine, seeing a Faulcon kill an Eagle, commaunded the head to be wrong off, saying: Let none presume against his Soueraigne.

THe Earle of Warwicke asked King Henry the first, why it pleased his Maiestie to goe so meanly attyred: The King answered, It beseemes a King to excell his subiects in vertue, not in vesture.

ALonso King of Aragon, washing his hands before dinner, deliuered to a gentleman that stood by, a couple of Rings of great valew, to hold whilst he had done: and after washing, not demanding them againe, it pleased the gentleman to keep them as his owne: A ten yeres after, the King washing his hands as before, this gentleman chaced then to stand by, and proffering to receiue his Rings againe, The King knew him, and calling to minde his former villanie, deliuered them to an other, and said to him, Nay soft freind, no more Rings for you, til you restore me my first couple.

THe same King vsed to say, that fiue olde thinges pleased him passing well: viz. Olde Wood for Fewell, an olde horse for easie riding, wine of a yeare olde, olde freinds, and olde Bookes.

AN Arch-deacon of Cruil in Spaine slew a Shoomaker, and the Shoomakers sonne besought Iustice, and he had it thus: viz. That the Arch-deacon for penance of the fact, should not say Masse for the space of a yeare after: This Iustice sufficed not the young Shoomaker, But chaunceing in the meane time, that Pedro King of Spaine came thither in progresse: The Shoomaker then rendred his suit to his Maiestie.

Maiestie, whereupon the Iudge stepped forth and informed the King how that Iustice was already passed vpon the said Arch-deacon, and told him all how it was. Neuertheles the young shoomaker mainely importuning his Maiesty for better Iustice: At last the King asked him, whether he thought him-selfe man ynough to kill the Arch-deacon? He answered, Yes: Dos it then said the King. Whereupon the next day, (being *Corpus Christi* day) and the Arch-deacon passing along in procession amongst the rest of the Clergie: The Shoomaker makes me no more adoo, but rushing vpon his person, stabbes him with his dagger. The King being complained vnto of this fact, and the fellow brought before him: It pleased the King in full notice of all the matter thus to pronounce sentence against him, namely: That in as much as the Arch-deacon was penanced for his foresaid murther, but only not to say masse for a whole yeare: that in like manner this Shoomaker should now not make any shoes the space of a whole yeare.

RIchard the first, King of England, being in France, there came vnto him a french Priest named Fulco, and desired him to put from him three abhominable Daughters which he had, and to commit them to marriage: thou Priest hypocrite (said the King) for all the world knowes I haue not a Daughter. I lye not (replied he) for you haue three: One is named Pride, another Couetousnes, and the third Lechery: The King smyling, call'd his Noble-men, and said: this hypocrite desireth me to marry my three Daughters, which he calles Pride, Couetousnes, and Lechery: and now I haue found out apt Husbands for them, I will doe his will. My Pride I bequeath to the yond Templars, for they contend with Lucifer: my Couetousnes to the Monkes, for they feed the Deuill and all: and my Lechery to the Priests, for they are most frequent therein.

ALfred King of England, vsed to say, that it is much safer to take aduise of the dead, then of the liuing: meaning Bookes, which neither for feare, nor yet for flatterie,

abſtaine to tell a truth.

A Wyſe King of Granada vnderſtood the Spaniſh tongue reaſonable well, and ſild ome or neuer ſpake it. Being aſked why he refuſed ſo to doe when occaſion was offred: He anſwered, becauſe a King ought neither doe nor ſay any thing, be it neuer ſo tryfling, which may not beſeeme him paſſing well.

A Quéene aſking a Country Gentleman, when his wife was to be brought a bed: he anſwered, whenſoeuer it ſhall pleaſe your Highneſſe to commaund.

VPon the firſt diſcouerie of the Indies, it was diſcourſed before Iſabel Quéene of Spaine, that hardly any of her ſubiects would be found, that would aduenture ſo far and dangerous a voyage by Sea. The Quéene anſwered: Pies, Fooles and Pylers will.

ISabel Quéene of Spaine, wonted to ſay, that ſhe loued alike theſe foure ſights: An armed man in the Feild, a Biſhop in his *Pontificalibus*, a Lady in her eſtate, and a Theefe vpon the gallowes.

HEnry the third, King of France, the very ſame morning that he had murdred the Duke of Guize in Bloies comming to the olde Quéene his Mother with the newes, and aſking her how ſhe lyked therof: She anſwered: It is well done (Sonne) if it be well done.

QUéene Iſabel of Spaine abhorred Garlicke, and it chanced on a time (through the Cooks negligence) that a diſh of Fiſh was ſerued to her boord, which was all couered ouer with Parcely, the which had layne among Garlicke: Which, as ſoone as the Quéene ſmelt, ſhe ſaid: Away with that Villaine, doe ye not ſee where he is come diſguiſed in greene?

The

The Emperour Nero hearing that his Predecessor Claudius was related among the Gods, and knowing that he dies of a poyson'd Sallade, said: I had not thought that Sallades had bene the food of the Gods.

OF NOBLEMEN AND *Ambassadours.*

DON Iohn first Duke of Medina Sydonia, being aduertis'd by his Treasurer that his expences were most excessiue, and his guifts all too liberall, he answered: I will haue the glory of my house knowne to the world, not by possessing much treasure, but by expending much treasure.

DON Fredericke of Tolledo, Duke of Alua, being besought vnto by a poore widdow Gentlewoman to prefer with his liberality her daughter in marriage, he was easily inclined so to doe: Whereupon he willed his Treasurer to giue her an hundred Markes: The Treasurer mistooke the Duke, & gaue her an hundred pounds: who shortly after comming to giue vp his accompts to his Lord, this hundred pounds came then in sight: whereunto the Duke excepted, & said: Why, I awarded but one hundred Markes. The Treasurer had then no other shift, but to say, that his eares mistooke his honours pleasure: Nay reply'd the Duke, rather doe I thanke God that he hath afforded thee better eares, then me a good tongue, and so he past the accompt for currant.

A Plaine Country-man came to demaund iustice of the Lord high Constable of Castile, and thus he said: I am come to crane iustice of your Worship, I beseech your Excellence to dispatch me, for I am a poore man my Lord, and vnlesse your Reuerence fauour my case, I am vtterly vndone:

done: I pray your good Worshipp to be good to me, and I will truely pray God to bless your Worse whiles I live. The Constable hereat broke forth a laughing, and said: This poore Swaine will be sure to hit me either high or lowe.

Henry the third King of France demanded of Mounsieur Dandelot what especiall things he had noted in England, during the time of his negotiation there: he answered, that he had seene but three things remarkable, which were, that the people did drinke in boates, eate raw Fish, and strewd all their best rooms with Hay: meaning, blacke-Jacks, Oysters, and Rushes.

A Nobleman of Ferrara having lived to the last end of his age unmarried, his friends demanded his reason why he would not take a wife: he answered, because he would not be bound to get children: and being asked why he wold not get children: he answered, because he would not be bound to love them.

Monsieur *la Counte* seeing the Duke Byrons impatience before his death, asked him what he thought of death: that (said he) betwixt it and life there is no difference: why then (said the Counte) doe you not imbrace it with more patience: because then said the Duke I should not make them alike, but they must both be troublesome.

A Mynion of the French Kings, who was noted for an infinite letcher, as having Cuckolded many Dukes and Princes, demanded of the *Grand* Prior if he might not sweare he was no adulterer: even as you please (said the Prior) for periury is no worse a sinne then adultery.

The Fortresse of Burrago by negligence was set on fire, and burnt downe to the ground: the Duke of Infantasgo being thereof Lord: The Captaine of the place was the first man that brought the Duke newes of the mis-

chance,

chance, beſeeching his Alteze, that ſeeing it hapned through his meere default, he would ſeuer his deteſted head from his ſhoulders, for an example to all careles Captaines euer after. Then the Duke asked him whether his nettes and toyles which he had there for Deere, were alſo periſhed with the fire? he anſwered: No my Lord, they are ſafe: That's well ſaid the Duke: As for the Fortreſſe, I tell thee Captaine, take no care, for I did meane to haue raſed it long agoe.

A Poore Gentleman of the Country had bred vp a Horſe to the perfection of a dainty good one, inſomuch that he made accompt to be a great gainer thereby, and vpon diligent inquiry after a good Copeſemate, he vnderſtood that the Duke of Infantaſgo would out of doubt giue him more for him then any in all the country beſides, ſo greatly that Duke delighted in choyſe of good Horſes. To him then this Gentleman néedes would with his Horſe, and trauailing on the way, the weather being extreame hot, and the Horſe no leſſe fat and foggy, with ouer much former eaſe, fell downe and died. The Gentleman neuertheles got the Horſe flay'd, and carried the skin to ſhew the Duke, and ſaid vnto him: Your Honour may iudge by this skin what a goodly Horſe it was, and God is my Iudge, my Lord I was bringing him to offer vnto your Lordſhip before all others. Gramercy ſaid the Duke: but tell me: what did you value the Horſe at: Beléeue me my Lord (he anſwered) not vnder an hundred pounds could haue bought him of me. Which that the Duke commaunded his Treaſurer to giue the poore Gentleman two hundred pounds, and ſaid vnto him: I giue you theſe two hundred pounds as a charge that through your default you neuer ſuffer any ſo gallant Horſe miſcarry any more ſo miſchanceably vnder your hands.

SIr Thomas Moore wonted to ſay, that a Lyer (as a Lyer) reſembled counterfeit Coyne, and in his other vices is like to light Coyne.

A Pitchthanke told Don Lopez de Haro, that such a one had greatly miſuled him in tearmes behinde his backe, adviſing him to reuenge the iniury highly: Whereunto Don Lopez anſwered: Now I giue God thankes, that though he be able to ſpeake ill of me, yet hath he not the power to hurt me.

The Earle of Vrenia meeting an Arch-Byſhop in the ſtreete, ſaluted him with all due reuerence: And the Prelate but ſlightly reſaluted him, touching onely his hat brim: Which the Earle noting, ſtepped to one of his Gentlemen and tolde him: It ſeemes your Lord is either balde, mangie, or careleſſe, that he dares not venture of his hatte, for feare belike to haue it ſcene.

The Earle of Vrenia being to ſend a letter to a faire Lady, was deſirous to make proofe of the bearers ſufficiency, as concerning the due performance of the ceremony thereunto belonging: And he call'd vnto him a new Page of his and ſaid: Sirrah I am to ſend you forth with with a letter to a very faire Lady, let me ſee how well you can doe your meſſage: Imagine that I am ſhe, and heare, holde the Letter, and get you gone out at yonder doore, and then come in againe, and let me heare what you will ſay: The Page tooke the letter, went forth, and came in againe, and being come ſomewhat neere the Earle, he doft his Hatte, and bowed his knee, and kiſt the Letter, and gaue it him, ſaying: Madam, my Lord of Vrenia greets your Ladiſhip, and hath ſent you this Letter: The Earle at this inſtant had his hand in his Codpiece, and ſtood ſtoping, and thus he anſwered: Welcome my Ladde, how fareth my Lady the Counteſſe? The Page anſwered: Well and like your Honour: And the Earle how fareth his Lordſhip? what is he now adoing? He anſwered: My Lord is likewiſe well (Madam) his hand is in his Codpeece, all to beſcratching ſomewhat.

A Poet

A Poore Gentleman ſeldome dined from the Earle of Vrenia his boord, It chanced in a forenoone that a tumult aroſe in the Earles Pallace, the Gentleman not being yet come: but anon after he came (for it was dinner time) Whom the Earle ſeeing, ſaid vnto him: Sir, you are welcome, though reſembling the Smithes dog, euermore awake at meale, and aſleepe at the Anuill.

THe Earle of Vrenia asked one that came from the Court, what was reported of him there: Who anſwered: Neither good nor bad (my Lord) that I could heare. With that the Earle commanded him to be throughly blowe-baſted and beaten: and then afterward gaue him fifty Duckets, saying: Now maiſt thou report of Vrenia both good and bad.

AN ancient Captaine, whoſe beard was heare-white with age, brought word to the Earle of Vrenia how the enemy had ſurpriz'd his Forte: Truſt me (Captaine) good newes, (anſwered the Earle,) Thou haſt loſt the Fort, and preſerv'd the Barbacane, Barbacane, ſignifying in Spaniſh, a white beard, and alſo a Blockhouſe.

FRanciſco Symenes Arch-biſhop of Tolledo, being deputed high Gouernour ouer Spaine, during the Emperours abſence in the lowe Countries, vpon occaſion of ſome ſeruice, ſent for the Earle of Vrenia to come to him to Madryll. The Earle arriued as farre as Guadalaiara (which was a two dayes iourney off the Court) and walking there in the Goldſmiths ſtreet, chanced to caſt his eye vpon a curious peece of Plate in one of the ſhoppes and with that he ſtept to it, and viewing it, and liking it well, he willed the Goldſmith to bring it to his lodging. The Goldſmith knew him not, and therefore craued his name: Then the Earle remembring his olde grudge towards the Archbiſhop, and taking it in foule ſcorne to be at his call, anſwered: Nay, nay (my friend) it ſkills not who I am, ſeeing I am come thus farre.

A Gentleman, neere neighbour to the Duke of Vrenia, in a great deare yeare of Corne, earnestly desired the Earle to supply his present necessitie: The Earle was well pleased to doe him that kindenesse, and commaunded his Secretarie (forth-with) to drawe a warrant to his Steward, to measure him out twenty quarters of Wheate: In the meane while the Earle stood talking with the Gentleman at a windowe. At the last, the Secretarie having drawne the warrant, brought it to the Earle to be Signed: Which he perusing, and finding the wordes to goe thus, I will you to deliuer twentie quarters of Wheat, to *Don Pedro de Guſman*, wherewith I am willing to pleasure him at at this time: wherupon, he straight tore the warrant, and all to beknau'd the Secretarie, and said: Write that he deliuer vnto him (presently) twenty quarters of Wheat, for that it pleaseth *Don Pedro de Guſman*, to doe me the honour to accept it.

CAduidus King of Sythia, seeing a painter forsake his trade, and become a Physition, he said vnto him: Sirra the faultes you made before in your workes might easily be seene, but those you commit now, are hidden vnder the earth, for dead mens diseases are euer buried with them.

THe same King being returned from Greece and intending to plante ciuill lawes in his Countrie, was traytrouslie slaine by his owne brother as he rode one hunting: but feeling his deathes wound, he said, I haue beene preseru'd amongst straungers, by wisedome and learning, but am murdered amongst my kindred by enuie.

CHarles the French King, being very famous for his wisedome, the Prince of Nauar asked his Maiestie, whether a wise man might marrie: he answered what is thine opinion of me: he reply'd, that you are the onlie famous King of the world for wisedome: well (quoth he) then know I haue married a wife.

The

THe same King being reproued by one of his Lords, for some fearefulnes he had shewd in his countenance, he said, you are a foole, he that is without feare, is without vertue, and sinnes from presumption.

A Blackamore King, coueting a French woman, she told him his complexion was so vgly she could not loue him: thou art deceiud said he, it is the basenes of thy minde which is so filthy a glasse that my beauty cannot be seene in thee.

ISabell Queene of Spaine willed Don Alonzo de Aguilar to entitle himselfe Marques of Pligeo, (which was the name of his Manour house:) He answered, That were all one, as if your Maiestie would aduise me to marrie my maide.

THe Marques of Cenete was woont to say, that to bee rich, was not to increase treasure, but to diminish appetites.

GOnzalo Fernandes, a braue Spanish Generall, walking in a Church, heard a Priest loudly praying: To whome he sayd: Father, what prayer is that you say? Hee answered, the Prime: Straine it not then so high (replyd the Generall) least you breake it: For Prime in Spanish signifieth also a treble Lute-string.

GOnzalo Fernandes vsed to passe much by a poore mans doore, who had two very fayre daughters: which the poore man perceiuing, and conceiuing withall that Gonzalos abusiue loue of his daughters might greatly redound to his reliefe: He came to him, and besought him to helpe him to some doings in the Countrey, thinking by such his absence the better to leaue his daughters to Gonzalos lust, and without that the world might iustly suspect any his priuity thereunto. Gonzalo perceiuing such the poore mans drift and desperation, tooke compassion of his case, and

drawing him into an inner roome, gaue him two hundred Crownes in two seuerall bags, saying: I marie will I (my friend) doe for thee: Holde here these two bags and be gone; see thou bestow thy daughters presently therewith, and as for thy selfe, I will prouide for thee besides.

GOnzalo Fernandes still vsed to say, that he remained debtor to none so much as to them, to whome he gaue most: So much he esteemed the honour of his bounty.

THe Earle of Cifuentes wonted to say, that Noblemen in times past vsed to cast accompt with their Launces, and now a daies with Counters.

DOn Diego de Mendoza Earle of Melito, was wont to say, that in the house where is a fountaine, there needeth no Cesterne, and the Lord that hath fee enough, needeth not vp no treasure.

THe Earle of Cenete being a very young Gentleman at the siege of Perpenian, ventured close vnder the wall, and darted a Launce into the Castle, and came safe away: Anon after a couple of horsemen sallied forth of the place, and he seeing them would haue ventured to encounter one of them: But his Tutor would not suffer him, but said: Soft Sir, first I will goe before and kill one of them, and then come you after and cut off his head: Nay (reply'd the Earle) rather let me goe before and kill one of them, and then come you after and kisse his taile.

THe Earle of Lenios awarded Iustice to a Vassall of his: wherewith the party found himselfe agrieued, and highly exclaimed of the Earles iniustice therein, and belike the Earle indeed mistooke the matter: Whereupon he sent for the party the next day, and said vnto him: My friend, thy speeches deserue laughter, and my errour reformation.

A Duke of Feria was ſo honourable in his bounties, that he neuer bid his Treaſurer any ſet value to diſburſe, but thus: Giue ſuch a one fourty or fifty Crownes, 100. or 150. pounds: So as the Treaſurer reſted euermore perplexed how to performe the Dukes pleaſure. Wherefore being on a time commanded to giue a certaine Gentleman 200. or 250. Crownes, he came to the Duke, to demand his exact pleaſure therein: Why peaſant (anſwered the Duke) ſeek'ſt thou to alter my manner of phraſe? I tell thee now for good and all, vnderſtand alwaies the moſt of my pleaſure, and there an end.

ONe asking Philip de Mourney who was moſt happy? he anſwered, he that had the health of body, the wealth of Fortune, and the knowledge of Saints.

THales the nobleſt of the Sages, being much importun'd by his mother to take a wife, he anſwered, that during his youth he was too young, & when that was ſpent it was too late, ſo that no time agreed with that action.

A Nobleman and his whole Family being baniſh'd out of Gréece, and all his lands and goods confiſcate, was receiued by the King of Cyprus, (who knew the excellency of his wiſdome) and all the honors, wealth, & pleaſures which he formerly had, were three times redoubled, inſomuch that ſitting one day amongſt his people, he ſaid: O my children, how had we béene vndone if we had not béene vndone?

DOn Bernardin de Velaſco delighted ſo exceedingly in Croſbowes, that he deputed an eſpeciall roome in his houſe for their ſafe cuſtody. It chanced on a time, that being to purchaſe a goodly Manour, and much ground about it in Andaluzia, he had ſtored vp treaſure, to the value of 60000. pounds, which his Treaſurer for more ſafety had coffered vp, and diſpoſed in the ſaid Croſbow-roome, as being the ſtrongeſt place in all the houſe. Don Bernardin

one

one day comming thether, to ſee the Croſ-bowes, and ſeeing thoſe coffers there, aſked what trumpery it was: The Treaſurer anſwered treaſure: Treaſure (ſaid Valaſco) tis trafh, away with it, what makes it here to indanger my Croſ-bowes?

A Officer comming to arreſt a Shomaker within his houſe; the Shomakers wife ſo well beſtirred her, that ſhe bravely belamb'd the Officer, whiles in the meane time her husband got away: The Officer then came vnto the Duke of Infantaſgo and complained vnto him of the battery, and of the Shomakers wiues miſuſage: alledging that if ſo ſcandalous a fact were not very ſeuerely (and that eftſoones) corrected, it would greatly redound to his L. diſgrace: whereunto the Duke anſwered: Seeing as thou ſaiſt the diſgrace will be mine, I forgiue the Shomakers wife.

DOn Bernardin de Bobadilia entring into the Earle of Beniuenta his priuy Chamber, the Earle did not ariſe to ſalute him: Whereupon all in a chafe he flung out, and ſaid, your L. is good for a vaſſall.

A Worſhipfull Gentleman ſaying in complement to the Earle of Vrenia: (I reſt your Honors poore friend) and with that kneeling, and adioyning afterward (and your humble ſeruiture) The Earle anſwered: I had taken you at your firſt word: viz. for a friend, had you not afterward adioyned Seruiture.

A King of Spaine commanded a gallery to be built vpon Arches all along a ſtreet from his pallace to Don Inigo Lopez his pallace, and vnderſtanding that it was all finiſhed, he ſent a Gentleman of his priuy chamber to goe view the worke, and bring him true report thereof, and withall to ſalute in his name Don Inigo Lopez. The Gentleman being arriued there, view'd the worke, & did the Kings ſalute vnto the Nobleman: who anſwered: Moſt humble thankes vnto the Kings ſalute, and I pray tell his Highneſſe I am well, and doe reſt ready at all his Maieſties imployance;

only

onely I meruell why it hath pleased his Highnes to ingne so vnnecessarie a prop to my strong house.

AT the funerall of the King of Hungary, the Emperour Charles passed along in a mourning Robe, & the Earle of Nassau bore vp his traine. An officious Gentleman, retainer to the said Earle, supposing it no lesse curtesie to doe the like to his Lord, take vp his traine, and bore it vp after him a good way: At last the Earle looking backe, espy'd him, and said: Let downe sir foole and be gone in a knaues name.

A Dutchesse was iealous of a faire Gentlewoman, conceipting that she vsed some vnlawfull meanes to win her Duke to her amitie, & in this minde sent for her to murther her. The innocent Gentlewoman suspecting no such danger, came: And being in the place of death, the Dutchesse regarding her exceeding rare beautie, dismist her againe, saying: It is thy beautie hath slaine me, and saued thee.

CErtaine Ladies comming to visit an honorable person, who was become a Fryer, and had left the world, they said: That they greatly meruelled that so high a state as he would leaue the world, who had alwayes liued most honorably therein, and at his hearts ease: He answered: Euen as you say (Ladies) I haue alwaies hetherto bestowed my fine flowre on the world, and now therefore is it meete, that at least wise I giue my bran vnto my God, if so it please him to accept of it.

A Widdow Gentlewoman in a dearth of corne, came to the Earle of Vrenia, and besought him of his charity to releeue her: With that the Earle called his Secretary vnto him and bad him draw a warrant to his Bailiffe, to deliuer her so much. The Secretary, whether he mistooke his L. pleasure, or whether he was willing to vse his owne discretion therein, set downe lesse then the Earles award, namely but xx. bushels: & so brought it to the Earle to signe: Who seeing so smal a quantity, as but twenty bushels, was highly

displeased, and blotted it out, and wrote ouer it fiue hundred. Whereat his Secretarie seeming greatly to muse, the Earle said: Thus hath thy folly made me a more fole: but goe to, so it shall passe for this once. And he passed it so.

THe Earle of Cadra, being a very valiant Gentleman, arming himselfe on a time to goe skirmish the enemie, his Gentlemen greatly meruelled to see him so tremble and quiuer all the time he was of arming, which the Earle perceiuing, said: See see (sirres) how basely my flesh quakes to thinke in what a pecke of troubles my aduenturous heart will put it in anon.

A Nobleman had his young sonne vp to the Court, who being a delicate youth, the Ladies eyes were neuer off him, neglecting all other gallants, he being in place. Which the Nobleman perceiuing, said vnto them, Are you so ouer-ioy'd with the sight of greene barley, that you forget your pleasander afore you?

DOn Bernerdino Piementell had his house plentifully furnished with all manner rich and necessarie thinges. In so much it pleased the King his Liege to grace it in his progresse time with his surucy: Who when he had view'd it all from one office to another, in the end he greatly commended him, saying: That he was a good common-wealths man. Whereupon a Nobleman, this Piementels ill willer, then by, said vnto the King: And it like your Maiestie, there is not the least Citty or towne in all your land, but is better furnished. True answered Piementell, and yet I assure you (my Lord) not any whit of all this prouision came from your towne of Burgos.

ALauarda in Spanish signifies a Halberd, and Alauarda a pack-saddle. A Nobleman willed his Secretarie to write a Letter to a Gentleman a friend of his in Toledo, for a dozen of Alauardas, viz. Halberds. Now the Secretary through negligence wrote Aluardas, viz. Pack-saddles: Which the Nobleman set his hand to without ere reading it,

it, and so sent it away. The Gentleman meaning simply, bought a dozen of Pack-saddles, and sent them to the Nobleman, according to the contents of his letter: Which being presented to his view, and withall perceiving by the Gentlemans letter, such was the contents of his owne, he straight found out the Secretaries error, whome he presently called vnto him, and gaue him a regard of such his grosse ouersight: one halfe of the Pack-saddles, and th'other halfe he reserued to himselfe, as in respect he was so careless as to set his hand to a letter before ere he read it.

The Marques of Santillana vsed to say, that ceremonies are ynough for strangers, but deeds best friends.

The Marques of Santillana was a great student, & being on a time merily reprehended therefore by his illiterate friends, he said: I conuerse better with my bookes then with you.

The Marques of Comares talking with the President of Cordua, said vnto him, that the Romaines maintained a rich Common-wealth, & but meane houses, and the Spaniards rich houses, and but a hungry common-wealth.

A Commendador-Maior of Spaine, whose steward was all to miserly for his thrift, said vnto him: I pray thee N. lesse profit, and more honour.

A Nobleman hauing many Guestes vpon a time at dinner with him, & his board not very well furnisht, call'd his steward vnto him, and said: why N. this dinner is like a leaden blade, the poynt & the pummell bent together.

The Earle of Cifuentes being Ambassadour for the Spanish King at the Court of Rome, and being present at a Councell holden in the Popes Consistory, at which were present Ambassadours from most Christian nations, and a many Cardinalls, and the Pope himselfe: and seeing there the French King his chaire placed aboue his Lieges, he

puld it downe with great impatience. A Bishop that sate by, rebuked him therefore, and affirming that that was no meete time nor place to commit scandalls. Tut (reuerend Father he answered) say you as becomes a diuine, and doe I as fitteth a Gentleman.

A Duke of Florence inuited to his Pallace at Rome the Earle of Tendilia (Spaines Ambassadour) to supper, & the Duke would haue placed him at the vpper end of the bord vnder his cloath of estate, but the Earle greatly gainsaid it, and refused it. Then the Duke waxing hereat ciuilly angry, commaunded one of his Gentlemen to bring him forthwith the keyes of his Pallace, to the end to yeild them vp to the Earle.

FRancis King of France in a letter that he wrote to the Emperours Ambassadour, endors'd it thus: To th' Ambassadour of Kings, and King of Ambassadours. &c.

CArdinall Saluiates the Popes Legate in Spaine, at the Emperour Charles his espousall, being in merry conuersation, said: That France tasted of pride, Spaine of malice, Italy of wisdom, England of vanity, Portugal of fooles.

OF GENTLEMEN.

A Gent. asking a Dyer, whether he could die his silke stockings of the colour of womens honesty: Fie said a gentlewoman that stood by, what a question is that. Nay you lie (repli'd the Gent) beleeue me I had not thought a womans honesty had beene of the colour of (Fie.)

A Sodomiticall Gentleman walking in a Church-yard with another poore Gent. whome he greatly disdained, & asking him where he would be buried when he was dead: The other answered: With you in Sodome.

ISabel Queene of Spaine, saying to a young Gentleman, whose Father had before time sustained some iust disgrace at her highnesse hands; I trowe N. you will

be iustly

trimly raise vp your house againe, and make vp good a-mends for your Fathers fault. He (being a silly sot) answered: Yea, and like your Maiesty, one end of my barne indeed is sore decayed with the last windes, by reason that it stands somewhat high, but my mother hath promised me to be at the charge of that reparation.

A Gentleman sitting at a play, a Merchant by chance sate afore him, whose hat was so high and broad, that it hindred his view of the play: whereupon he said vnto him: My good friend, I beseech you doe off your hat a while, for I assure you it will greatly benefite my eye-sight.

A Spanish Gentleman had a many Moores to his slaues, and in the winter time he kept them colde and bare: A Church-man rebuking such his vncharity and hard heart, and saying that it was a shame vnto him, he answered: Valle they ouer the colde, and I le passe ouer the shame well ynough.

A Gentleman in regard of a Gentlewomans rude behauiour towards him, estranged himselfe for a season from conuersing with her. Whereupon a friend of hers asking him on a time, why he became so great a stranger to that house, he answered: Because better is ciuill strangenes, than rude familiarity.

A Gentleman riding along where sate a many Gentlewomen at the street doore, an vgly Mastiffe curre flewe at him: Whereupon the Gentleman desirous to viewe the Gentlewomen, take this as an occasion to turne backe, and said vnto them: Gentlewomen, this Curre is Hell, and all you are Heauen.

A Gentleman bespake a paire of shoes of a shoomaker, who at the monthes end brought them him: Whereat the Gentleman somewhat angry with his so long delay, said vnto him: Euen as you came (my friend) so be gone; for I

weare not my shoes by your foot, but by mine owne.

On S. Steuens day it is the custome, all Horses to be let bloud & drench'd. A Gentleman being (that morning) demanded whether it pleas'd him to haue his horse let bloud and drencht according to the fashion: he answered: No sirra, my Horse is not diseas'd of the fashions.

A Young Gentleman said vnto an olde Gent. (who was but his equall both in lunage and liuing, and all other respects onely age excepted) Sir I beseech you let me kisse your reuerend hand: Th'other was content, and offered it him to kisse: But the young Gentleman fearing such his vanity, only shooke him by the hand, and said: God saith Sir, you and I against any other two.

A Poore Gentleman that for wealths sake had married a rich pesants daughter, compared such his marriage to a pudding, whereinto he had put the bloud, and his father in law the Chibbols.

A Gent. hauing a runnlet of excellent Sacke in his house, a friend of his comming to visit him, he inuited him downe into his sellar to taste his Sacke, where (said he for want of mother cuppe I haue an excellent Caine to drinke out of: No I thanke you sir (said the other) for I know then I shall not be Abell to come vp againe.

A Gentleman hauing a house of much worth & commodity burned downe to the ground, & being much grieued at his losse, his friends came to visit him and to putaway his melancholy: but finding him very much distempered, one of his friends asked him, I pray you sir what might your house be worth: he answered, iust a pecke of ashes.

TWo or three Gentlemen (one of whose names was Sampson) talking of the comming of the Spanish fleete, sayes one of them, what need we puzell our selues thus to

raise

raiſe by an army, when Sampſon here is able to Conquer them all: True (ſaid Samplon) if I had one of thy Aſſes bones, I ſhould doe miracles.

A Gentleman came hungry home, and called for dinner, and his man anſwered: That it was but new ſtroken tenne. Tut (ſaid the Gentleman) telleſt thou me of ten by the clocke, being ſtocke by my ſtomacke.

A Poore Gentleman dying, had three faire Hawkes, which he thus diſpoſed of: viz. Th'one to be ſold for the benefit of his ſoule: th'other for the diſcharge of certaine dribbling debts: And the third to remaine to his ſonne, whom he made his Executor. This good Executor within awhile after miſſing one of the hawkes, ſaid: So, well fare thy heart (hawke) be thou gone for my fathers ſaule.

A Gentleman being releaſt out of priſon, the Porter at parting demaunded his fee, and the Gentleman gaue him but a common priſoners fee, viz. three pence: Whereunto the Porter excepting, and challenging fyve pence. The Gentleman blaming belike to haue beene priſoner for ſo foule a matter; anſwered, I am content thou take me for a peſant for this once.

A Very ciuill Gentleman walking in converſation with other his companions, ſtaid talking by the way with a plaine Country-man, who met him, and deliuered him a letter: And becauſe his party was ſome what long, th'others were diſcontented, and walked on afore, leaning him behind, who at laſt ouertaking them, ſaid: Gentlemen, it is no leſſe honourable to anſwere an inferiour, then to comply with an equall.

A Young Gentleman that had followed the warres, complained when he came home, of the Sciatica: And being asked how he came by that ache, he anſwered: By lying in francke tenements, viz. Vpon the bare earth.

Of

One asking a Gentleman his acquaintance what good Horses he had: he answered: As stately a one as ever you saw. Th'other then desirous to see it, to the stable they went: where when they came, a piteous poore Jade it was (God wot) of pure skin and bone. But looking still about for the foresaid stately Horse, and not seeing any such there, he marvelled, and often asked where he was become: Then th'other answered: Why loe here where he stands (pointing to the poore Jade) I warrant yee (quoth he) that he goes not above halfe a mile an houre to dye for it, e can you have a statelier Horse then so?

A Gentleman seeing his man gallop a Horse ill favourdly saide unto him: I assure thee (N.) thou doest not a whit discredit thy mother: The serving man asking him how so? Mary (quoth hee) because when one doth a thing passing well, and with a good grace (as now thou doest,) I have heard it often said: The whoreson hath done it passing well.

A Nobleman came to the Court with a gallant traine of Gold-chaines after him: And one of his Gentlemen being asked how it chanced that he had not a chaine as well as the rest? he answered: A do not gnawe.

A Vertuous Gentleman seeing a malicious person looke downe on the ground, and continue gazing thereon a good space, said: Questionlesse either some mischiefe is befallen yonder man, or some good to some other body.

A Gentleman that had been to see the Peake, travelling the same day homeward againe, alighted that night in an Inne: Where, when he was to goe to bed, a bonny Lasse stepp'd into his chamber and offred him her service all night. He seeing her impudence, answered: I list not (wench) to enter into the Peake twise in twelve houres: and so dismist her.

A Gentleman

A Gentleman put out his Mule to a Horse-courser to breake, and bid him make it a widdow Mule: The Horse-courser meruailing at such a tearme, demaunded his meaning therein: Mary (said the Gentleman) a widdow hath these three good properties: she is fat, she feedes well, and she goes well, such a one would I haue you make my Mule.

A Braue gallant Knight of this kingdome being of goodly and tall stature, walking into Westminster Hall, met a very lowe, little, lame Gent. with a meruailous long and broad sword vnder his arme, whereat the Knight wondring, tooke the little Gentleman by the shoulder, & said: My little pretty fellow why doest thou carry that weapon? The other sodainly answered: Thou great long Oake, to cut downe thy water-boughes.

A Captaine comming to visit a very merry mad Knight his countryman, the Knight instantly before many other Gentlemen began to enter into the commendations of the Captaine, telling what rare and wonderfull exploits he had done at the siedge of Saint Quintins: Truly (said the Captaine) it was not strange, for as I remember the armour I wore that day, was as thicke as betweene White hall and Saint Quintins: why were you not there? (said the Knight) no truely (said the Captaine) why it is no matter (said the Knight) for I know if you had beene there you would haue done as much as I haue reported.

Maister William Goring of Sussex had left him by Sir Henry his Father a chest of treasure, so close pyl'd vp together, that hard it was to finger out any one peece, much lesse to gripe out any. This Gentleman hauing lost the key of that chest, offered a lock-smith in bargaine for a new, either to take his full gripe of money out of it at the opening thereof, or else to stand to the bare price of his key. The Smith chose rather th'aduenture of his gripe: Which when it came to passe, and that with all the iniury he did vnto

his fingers, he could neither gripe nor picke out any one peece: At last he was faine to stand to the Gentlemans curtesie, who like a Gentleman requited his auarice with far more bounty then the key was worth.

An Officer whose daughter was detected of dishonesty, & generally so reported, vpbraided a Gentleman that his brother was a Papist, and therefore he himselfe happily not much better. The Gentleman hereunto answered: As well may an honest man haue a knaue to his brother, as an errant whore to his daughter.

A Gentleman accompanying on the way a great Commendador of Spaine, who wore a huge chaine about his necke, with a great Saint Iames hanging downe his brest before; at parting, this Gentlemans horse was so vnruly, that he could not easily rule him, but still he frisked and caracketted, and crost the Commendador on the way: Whereupon the Commendador asking him what his Horse ayled, he answered: And like your Honour, he is like a Hackney Jade, which wheresoeuer it sees a signe hang out, thinkes straight it is an Inne, & will not passe it to die. So is it with my Horse, and your Honours habite about your necke.

Two Gentlemen were at factions one with another, & the one of them sent his trusty seruant to an olde Gent. his neighbour, to sollicite his partiality on his behalfe: Whereunto the olde Gentleman made this answere, that he for his part was rather sorry for their mutuall enmities (being both his very good neighbours) then that he would any waies be a party therein, other then in way to attone them to his power, and make them good friends againe. The Seruingman deliuering this answere to his maister: The Gentleman all in a snuffe said: What an olde fole is he, that will be angry with nobody?

A Gent.

A Gentleman conuersing merrily among a many Gentlewomen, they said vnto him: Ware, you speake no more such follies, for feare we binde you: he answered, Being your selues all lose will you binde me?

A Spanish Gentleman was buying of Porke, and another that was not a Gentleman, but so seemed, came and cheapened it of the Butcher, as though he meant to buy it out of the others hand: Whereat the Gentleman halfe angry, said vnto him: Well, seeing you come to cheapen my Porke, Ile (sure) one of these daies come cheapen your pease.

A Poore Gentleman and a riche Cormudgeon being at choller icke tearmes with one another, the Churle sware that he was as good a Gentleman as he. Euen so (replyd the Gentleman) then I assure thee, I am the veriest pesant in the world.

A Pick thanke was telling a vertuous Gentleman, how such a one spake ill of him behinde his backe in the presence of a great many: Of a great many (answered the Gentleman?) Beleeue me, so I had rather one should say ill of me before many, then many before one.

One tolde a Gentleman that his men tatled much disgrace of him behinde his backe. He answered: Let them tattle what they list, and doe I what I list.

A Gentleman hearing Theeues in the night-time scaling his neighbours house, said: Harke how ponder poultry mount vp to their pearches.

A Gentleman of Tolledo hauing a péce of rich Taffata brought him from a friend of his out of India, sent for a Marchant to buy it of him: Who seeing it, and liking it well, tolde the Gentleman, that if it pleased him to take saffron in exchange for it, he would gladly rid him of it: where-

vnto the Gentleman answered: Graumercy (my good friend) But know you not that my Lord Cardinalls grace is at this day Inquisitor generall ouer all Spine? Goe but to him, and obtaine of his grace, that whereas Saffron is now most vsde in fryd meates, he to enioyne all men to vse it hereafter in boild meates; and this being once granted and proclaimed, then come to me againe, and I will shew you more of my minde.

A Neate, spruce courtyer (whose wealthe was only in his cloathes) comming to visit a merrie pleasant Gentleman his friend, after he had beene entertained, & brought into his chamber, where he put of his bootes, and other riding necessaries, the Courtyer put on a very faire gowne, of blacke Veluet, and so came downe into the Parlor where the goodman of the house was, who walking a while vp and downe, and noting the richnes of the Courtyers gowne, the merrie Gentleman said, me thinkes Sir you and I now walke in the middest of our riches: as how Sir (said the Courtyer) why Sir (said the Gentleman,) you in your Veluet gowne and I in my manner of Haudon.

ONe saying to a Gentleman: Sir me thinkes you haue built your house well for Summer, but not for Winter: He answered, Belike you thinke I haue lesse witte then wilde Geese, that cannot shift my abode with euery season.

THere was a certaine poore Gentleman, who, in regard of his pouerty, euery one thou-ed, and not any vouchsafed him the Title of Maistership: Whereupon one that noted it said: This argueth that neither God nor the King euer created Maistership.

ONe asking a Gentleman what he thought, of one that was newly taken in adulterie: He answered: Taken tardie.

OF

OF GALLANTS AND VPSTARTS.

A presumptuous gallant besought the King of Spaine in a merriment to make him his Secretarie: The King answered, that he was already prouided of a sufficient one. Yea, well I wote (reply'd the gallant) your Maiestie hath a Secretarie indeede, but he can speake no Latine, which is a foule default. The Secretary standing by, then answered: But it is a greater shame not to speake good Spanish.

EManuell King of Portugall being to ride a hunting, willed his Steward to prouide him dinner in a banqueting house, which he had in the Forrest, and that it should consist onely of such meates as had no bloud in them, viz. Sallades and fruites altogether. A Gallant ouer hearing such the Kinges encharge, stepped straight to a Gentleman his companion by, and drawing forth his sword, presented it to the King, and said: It may then please your Maiestie to taste hereof: For by Jesus it neuer yet drew bloud of any, and in it selfe the deuill a whit it hath.

A Merry Gentleman seeing a Gallant that was bounde for the Indies walke the stretes, his hat all a flaunt, and befeathered with all kinde of coloured plumes, said: When a Gods name will this Woodcocke flie? for well I see he hath all his feathers about him.

ONe that had laine first with the mother, and then afterward with the daughter, asked a Ruffian mate, what that fact might resemble? who answered: All one, as if you should eat the hen first, and the chickin after.

A Spanish Hidalgo vsed to say, that in a case of brabble betwixt King Phillip and him, he might with more

right giue the King the lie, then the King giue it him, becaule he himselfe is a pure Spaniard, and the King but an Ostrich.

A Gallant vled to say: Trauelling on the way, let me alwates lie in a house where I may call my Host knaue, and my Hostelle whore viz. in an Inne.

A Gallant was brought before a merry Recorder of London for getting a maide with childe, and the Recorder said: It is a meruell (maister L.) that you being a Gentleman of good quallity, would venture to get a maide with childe: The Gentleman answered, Nay rather were it a meruell, if a maide had gotten me with childe.

A Auncient Knight (of a noble family) meeting with other Iustices vpon a commission, one of the Iustices who was an vpstart, and but the sonne of a Grasier, espy'd the Knights satten doublet out at the elbowes, and said: fie Sir what doe you meane to weare this torne garment: goe to sirrah (said the Knight) you came so late out of Sack-cloth you know not what Satten meanes.

Three Farmers sonnes who through their purses were made Knights, comming to visite a Gentleman who was an exceeding great house-keeper, and finding there diuers Gentlemen: The Knights after dinner asked what sport they should goe to: why said the goodman of the house, to the Bowles if you please: And we three Gentlemen and no Knights will play against you three Knights and no Gentlemen.

A Gallant comming to a Banquet amongst a world of Noble Personages, by much carelesnes lost his Cloak, and greeuing for the losse more then beseemed a man: A Ladie came to him and said: Fie sir do not afflict your selfe thus for the losse of a single garment: No more I doe Madam (said he) for I do not greiue so much for the losse, as because it

it was not mine owne, and so I feare I shall make a double satisfaction.

A Gallant standing in a great study, a Gentlewoman asked him what he thought of: he answered of nothing: what doe you think of (said she) when you think of nothing: truly Madam (reply'd he) of womens constancy.

A Fellow being left by his friends, most exceeding rich in goods, though but poore in capacity, writ every where this poesie: *Inopem me copia fecit:* Which a witty Gallant seeing, writ underneath *copia carnit, inopem mentis.*

THe Clearke of a parish Church having brought up his sonne at the Universitie, to the intent to make him a Gentleman, now sending for him home, demanded what he had learned: The Sonne answered *Secreta mea mihi.* No said the father, *Stulticia sua tibi:* Not so repli'd the Son, for it is *neq; mihi, neq; tibi, sed dividatur.*

A Gallant boasted himselfe of much worship and Gentry in a place where he was not known: and it chanc'd that he and his Taylor squared about a bill of accompt, and he highly vaunting his worship to the Taylor said: Why Peasant it seemes thou knowst not what Gentry meanes: Tell me, what is it? The Taylor answered Yes, to be borne a hundred miles hence.

A Poore creature beg'd almes of a Gallant, who gave him a Tester. With that the begger said, that he would pray to God most truely for him. No (answered the Gallant) I pray thee pray for thy selfe, for I take no Almes-deede.

A Young Gallant that had wasted a goodly inheritance in a very short space, one said in mockage of him: Whereas earth doth to consume all other men, this Gallant hath consumed earth.

A Portugal & a Spaniard fought, & by meanes of friends they were parted, and almost made friends. Then the Portugal said: I am content (sirs) at your earnest intreaties to let the villaine live, but (as I am a Gent.) I'le have one limme or other of him, as a badge of my victory.

A Vaine Gallant rams his head by chance against anothers belly, and the company asking this other how he felt his belly, he answered: Well, for a winde-blader never gives great blowe.

A Vnthrifty youth being brought to the last call, challenged in th'Arches a certaine rich Citizens daughter to wife: affirming, that they were at such a time, and in such a place contracted together. When the Judge asked him, whether the mariage were ever since consummated yea or no? With that steps me forth the Maides Proctor, & said: Yes (sir) his living is long agoe.

TWo companions went to a wenching-house, and the Lasse was not yet come according to appoyntment: whereupon one of them began in the meane time to conceit the olde Viccaresse of that hell, there present. Which the other seeing, said vnto him: Are you so hungry that you will eat up the halter before the hay come;

A Gallant seeing himselfe worshiped at every word in al places where he came, said vnto his hostesse that so worshipp'd him: I pray thee hostesse worship me no worships, would my worship were hang'd.

ONe asking a Gallant where he lay a nights, he answered: My lodging is like the poynt of a Dagbot, that still goes with the eye.

A Young Gallant was new come to his living, & his mother blaming his vnthriftines, all in a pelting chafe he said vnto her: Faith (mother) taunt me so but once more,

and

and for ſpight I'le ſell ye all the land and lining I haue. So may you doe well Sonne (anſwered his mother,) yea and if you ſhould ſell it all but for fiue pence, yet ſhould you be no loſer thereby, for it neuer coſt you groat.

A Preſumptuous Gallant pricke vp vpon the Spaniſh Court gate, a Tilt-challenge againſt all comners: A Lady asking her Paramour whether he would ſubſcribe thereunto? He anſwered: No (Madam) no firme of mine, for ſo fantaſticall a body admits no impreſſion, viz. Encounter.

A Nvpſtart Gallant being determined to ſeeme the Gentleman, bought him halfe a dozen ſutes of apparell, and putting on the firſt day of his brauery a faire large velvet cloake, he loked about him, and ſaid: Me thinkes this cloake ſtands nothing handſome vpon me: True (ſaid a Gentleman that ſtood by) you may therefore doe well to beginne with Taffata firſt, and then fall to your velvet afterward.

A Gallant was a boaſting that he neither feared pox nor plague: and another adioyn'd, Nor God.

One commending an others huge ſtrength, ſaid: That if the world had an yron ring at it, he would lift it vp all.

A Gallant threatned one, ſaying: If thou offend me, Ile throw thee ſo high into the Element, that rather mayſt thou feare famiſhing, then falling.

A Pariſh in the Weſt Country called Lent was by fortune ſet on fire: and by chance a good fellow paſſing by at the ſame time, and ſeeing it, aſked the Pariſhes name: They anſwered Lent: Lent (quoth he) I pray ye then in with Fridayes & Saterdayes to, that the fire may conſume them altogether.

CORONELS AND CAPTAINES.

MOnsieur de Aubenie last Generall of the French forces in the Kingdome of Naples, being, what by conquest, and what by composition, to yeelde up to Spaine, the last townes and holdes that he there held for his Liedge. It pleased Gonzalo Fernandes the Spanish Generall to be so honorable, as after much Festiuity extended vnto him at his surrender, to furnish his decay'd armie with principall good horses to packs away: But Monsieur d'Aubenie rather regarding the pride of his minde, then the curtesie of the Spanish Generall, tolde him at parting, that he had done very vnaduisedly, to mount his men so brauely away, in as much as vpon the same horses he might chance to see him & them shortly againe in those partes, in as hostile manner as euer before. You shall be welcome (answered Gonzalo) whensoeuer you come, neither euer shal you finde Spaine lesse honourable then now.

ONe Pedrarias a Portugal in a battaile that he fought against Spaine, take prisoners many Gentlemen and Artizans of Tolledo, and hauing occasion the morrow after to make a Trench and a vault vnder ground, at a place called Pannionrostro, he asked them all seuerally whether they were Gentlemen or Artizans: and such as said they were Artizans, he imployed them in the worke, saying: Why would you leaue your trades? And the Gentlemen he dismist, saying: You did but your duties to come to the warres.

GOnzalo Fernandes vsed to say: That Souldiours in peace, are like chimneys in Summer.

THe said Generall wonted to say: If thy enemy flye, make him a golden bridge.

The

THe ſaid Gonzalo Fernandes marching on a time to bid the French-men battell, chanced to ſtumble and fall: Whereat his Army ſeeming diſmay'd: at riſing vp, he ſaid vnto them: Why (Sirs) this is no woꝛſe then that the ground embꝛaceth mee foꝛ ioy.

DIego Garcia Paredes ſaying to Gonzalo Fernandes: May it pleaſe your Honour to auoyde that dangerous place, ſeeing how ſoꝛe the enemy plaies vpon it: He anſwered. Since God hath put no feare into my heart, put you none into me.

THe grand Pꝛyoꝛ of France being asked his opinion what he thought of Soldiours: anſwered: That Soldiours, women and friends, were like Spaniells, good onely when men had occaſion to vſe them.

A Colward knowne, being made commander of diuers valiant Soldiours, they refuſ'd to follow him, at which the Generall being angry, demanded the reaſon of their contempt: And they anſwered that if it pleaſed him to make a Lyon their Captain, they as Harts would follow and ſerue him, but if he made a Hart their gouernoꝛ, they as Lyons muſt diſdaine him.

HAniball Gonſago being in the Low-countries ouerthꝛowne from his hoꝛſe by an Engliſh Captaine, and commanded to yéeld himſelfe pꝛiſoner: Kiſt his ſwoꝛd and gaue it the Engliſh-man ſaying: *Si Fortuna me tormenta, Il ſperanza me contenta.*

THe Count D'auerne being at the Kinges commandment, ſuꝛpꝛiꝛd by a tꝛoupe of Hoꝛſe-men, the commander demanded of him to deliuer vp his ſwoꝛd: and he anſwered, there it is. I haue béene a Captaine a great while, yet the beſt man my ſwoꝛd hath ſlaine was but a wilde Boꝛe.

DOn Pedro Gonzales seeing his Liege at the battell of Aliuberoto in danger to be slaine, alighted from off his horse, and mounted the King thereon, and so rety'd him safe away: Which after he had done, and placed him in assured safety, he would haue returned back againe to the battell, but the King would not suffer him. Pardon me my Leige then he said: I will goe, Neuer shall the women of Guadalaiara say, that I train'd vp their sonnes and husbands to the warres, and haue left them dead in the field, and my selfe safe returned home.

A Spanish Captaine was sent to skirmish a multitude of enimies with a few men: And of those few he toke but the one halfe, saying: Better yet a few die then all.

CHatillian, Lord Admirall of France hauing giuen the Guizians a great ouerthrowe in a vale: Was himselfe suddenly set vpon by a troope of enimies from a hill: Yet notwithstanding retreating his scattered Armie to safetie with the losse onely of some few, hee said by the way: I thought yonder mountaine cloud would at last redowne to a shoure of raine.

THe King of Spaine commaunded the braue Castle of Montilia for the Lordes treason to be raised to the ground: And it chanced, that as the ruine was a doing the vnexpected fall of a turret slew fifty persons. Gonzalo Fernandes hearing of it, said: Oh what a destruction (trowe yée) would Montilia haue made amongst her enimies, had it beene suffered to liue, that dying hath slaine so many of her foes.

FErnando Gonzalos seeing one of his souldiours a selling his horse, ask'd him why he solde him? The Souldiour answered: Because (my Lord) his fashion is to giue backe at the sight of armour. I meruaile much (reply'd Gonzalos) that you will sell him for the same quallity you bought him for.

Gonzalo

GOnzalo Fernandes being to bid the enimie battell, it fortuned that certaine barrels of powder were set on fire, wherewith the Armie was superstitiously dismaid: which he perceiuing, said: (Sirres) this is the bonefire of our victory.

A Souldiour came and told his Captain, that he thought such a Fortresse of the enimie might be wonne onely with the losse of some few men: Whereunto the Captaine answered: But will you be one of those few?

CHarles Duke Byron seeing his father lose an aduantage of warre against the Duke of Parma, cryed out, O that I were the King, that I might now kill my Father.

A Christian Captain hauing betrayed the Citie of Rhods, into the Turkes handes, vpon condition to marrie the Turkes daughter, after the Citty was sackt: did demaund his reward, and the Turke answred he should haue it, onely he had vowed that she should not be married to a baptized skinne, and therefore caused him to be flay'd, saying, if you can get a new skinne she is yours.

A Couetous Captaine, whose name was Leonard Robiny, his Souldiours in derison, called him Captaine Robpennie.

A Gallant Captaine leading his men forth to seruice, and seeing them halfe amaz'd at the ouer-multitudes of th'enemy, said: Why, (Sirres) did heauen fall, we would (I trowe) support it with our manly Armes.

AN Italian Captaine seeing fire giuen to a Cannon in th'enemies Fort toward his quarter, he prostrated himselfe vpon the ground, and said: He that feares not thee, feares not God.

The

THe Castle of Endouen in Brabant, being surpriz'd by night, by the Spates Souldiours, the Captaine thereof being an Italian, was then a bed with his wench: To whom his Lieutenant came, and said: vp and fight (Captaine) or saue your selfe, for th'enemie is within the walles: He answered: You and the rest fight there, for I haue as much as I can turne me to here: Anon after came one of his Sergeants, and said; Captaine, vp and away, th'enemie prayles: He answered, I, now I come, my Launce is in the rest: At last came rushing in his Ancient, and said: Captaine, your colours are lost, and the Castle tane: He answered: Yet haue I broken my Launce, what will you more; Then last of all ruſht in th'enemie into his Chamber, and would haue slaine him: With that he kist his whore, and said vnto them: Oh Sirs, *Bon guerre, bon guerre*, sa here *Bon guerre*.

AN Italian Captaine in the Low-countries leading his men to skirmish th'enemie: Thus heathenly encouraged them saying: (Sirs) remembring the Antickе honour of our Romain nation, fight so: and as for your sinnes, if you dye, know yee there is no God. So said, he fought, and was the first man was slaine. God Reader, detest this and honour Gods iudgement therein.

OF SOVLDIOVRS.

A Captaine and a Souldiour fought a combate, and the Captaine hurt the Souldiour in the Arme. So as downe fell his sword from out his hand, he resting at the Captaines mercy. Then the Captaine saying: Now yeeld (villaine) or dye. Is it as I list (answered the Souldiour) know ye then, that though my Arme now failes me to fight, yet my courage serues me well to dye.

Amongst

AMongſt a many Portugals that went to giue the Moores a canuaſado by night, a Spaniard marched amongſt them, & he ſpeaking ſomewhat loud, contrary to their proclaimed ſilence, a Portugal chent him therefore, ſaying: By your Spaniſh ſpeach the Moores will think we be all Spaniards, and then (before God) will they kill euery mothers childe of vs.

A Portugal Souldiour marching in a troope of Spaniards againſt the Moores, vnarm'd and weaponleſſe, one aſked him why he was no better furniſhed: He anſwered: Mary becauſe there are as valiant men at foote as at Armes.

A Spaniard at the entry of the breach of Maſtricht (a Flanders towne) ſeeing at a corner houſe, as he ran along to the ſpoyle, an Image of the Virgin Marie broken and all defaced, bow'd downe his knée to the ground and vow'd that before he paſſed that ſtréete he would kill ſeauen Duchmen in deſpite of the ſeauen deadly ſinnes, & an eight in reuenge of that ſacriledge done to the ſaid Image of our Lady: and he did ſo.

A Spaniſh Souldiours Match in Flanders, not taking fire ſo preſently as he would, ſaid: Gogs nouns, this Lutherane fire refuſeth to light my Catholicke Match, for feare (belike) leaſt it ſhould kill ſome thouſand Duch Lutheranes.

A Crue of Souldiours beg'd of a Gentleman as he rode on the way, and he anſwered: Faith (Sirs) I doe not vſe to giue takers any thing. They neuertheleſſe ſtill importuning him, and one of them ſaying: Happily your Worſhip hath ſometimes béene a Marſhall man your ſelfe, (for ſo you ſéeme,) and therefore we hope you will not be vnkinde to poore Souldiours in diſtreſſe. No truſt me (anſwered the Gentleman) I neuer was Souldiour in all my life, and yet (I hope in God) I am an honeſt man neuertheleſſe.

A Souldiour hauing béene at the ſiedge of Tregoſſo, was ſéene there to runne away moſt ſhamefully, yet notwithſtanding out of his proud minde he would write euery

where

where for his poesie *Quid non?* what not? which a braue commander seeing, added to his *Quid non*, Tregosso.

A Cowardly Gallant went forth with his company to combate the Moores, and the Moores wonne the field: Yonte then returned the run-away fugitiues, and brought their Generall word of all *A la mort*. Amongst whome this Gallant was missing, and not being heard of, was thought to haue beene slaine: Nay I warrant you (said an olde woman there present) he is liuing, for well I wot, Moores eat no Hares flesh.

A Gallego of Spaine went to the warres, and was shot with an arrowe into the head: The Surgion searching the wound said, that he could not possibly liue, for that the arrow had pierst his braine: The Gallego answered: That can not be, for I haue no braine at all, had I had braines, I trow I had neuer come to the warres.

AT the siedge of Barcelona, a Portugal horseman entred pelle melle in th'enemies throng into the towne gate, and wrote with a chalke within the gate: Hetherto aduentured Vasco Fernandes. The next day a Spaniard hearing him boast thereof, was no lesse aduenturous, and brauely hazarded himselfe the next skirmish in at the same gate, and wrote with a cole beyond his: Hetherto Vasco Fernandes did not aduenture.

A Valiant Souldiour being demaunded how many men he durst encounter withall at once: he answered: If he be an honest man, one is ynow, if villaines, a whole street full.

A Nouice Souldiour putting on his first harnesse, trembled, and said: Now that I see my selfe in Armes, I am afraid of my selfe.

A Young Souldiour brought from the warres a great skarre in his face, and chancing on a time to mete an olde Souldiour, that had as great a skarre in the face as he, he stood gazing thereupon a good while: Then th'other asked him why he did so? He answered: I am sure I am vp, but you haue wonne it by the elder hand.

A Souldiour

A Souldiour that had a piteous mangled face, brought his garment to a Taylor to mende: The Taylor gazing earnestly on his face, at last said; You had more need be new made, then mended.

A Italian Souldiour at the siege of Bergaine op Zome in Brabant, prostrated himselfe to the ground, at the sight of a Cannon shot, and said. Not bow to thée, not bow to God.

A Souldiour that in his mirth was most gratious, and in his rage intollerable: One said, that he was like a Quince that helpes disgestion well, and yet is it selfe hard to disgest.

A Spanish Officer braving an English Gentleman that seru'd his King in the Lowe-Countryes, and saying: My Liege giues thee bread to eate: else might'st thou starue well ynough: He answered, Your King indéed aduentures his purse for me, but I my Princelle displeasure and my life for him.

One preferred warrs before peace, and his reason was, because that in warres the fathers burie their sonnes. but in peace the sonnes their fathers.

A Souldiour was a telling how that in a battell in which he was, th'enemies Arrowes were so infinite in the ayre, that they darkened the Sunne ouer them: Whereunto another answered: Then had you the odds, to fight with them in the shade.

In a plaine all couered ouer with snowe, a Captaine séeing a souldiour march in his Doublet and Hose with a pike on his shoulder all in a sweat, ask'd him how in so cold a day as that, and but in a thin doublet and hose he could possible sweat so? The souldiour answered: Marie (Captaine) if you carried all your goodes vpon your backe at once, as I doe, I warrant you, you would sweat as well as I.

OF CHALLENGES AND COMBATES.

A Gentleman reading a letter of defiance, wherein he was challenged the field, his Page holding the candle vnto him whiles he read it, and snuffing it, chanced to put it out. Sirra (then said the Gentleman) light the candle againe quickly, for I tell thee (boy) this letter comes not to put out candles, but to kill God a mercy on his soule.

IN the combat betweene Phillipin the Duke of Sauoys bastard brother, and Monsieur Crequi, Phillipin was run quite through the body and nailed to the earth: which done, Crequi bad him begge his life or lose it; you are a fole (answered Phillipin) to bid me aske what you cannot giue.

FErnandes Gonzales, appointed twelue Spanish Souldiours to combate so many other French-men hand to hand: And it fell out that the combat ended with equall honour to both nations: Whereupon Gonzales said: I sent my Spaniardes forth for better men.

IN Spaine single combate is not allowed, but betweene persons of like blood and image: A Spanish Gentleman hauing a quarrell with another not his equall, sent him a challenge thus: I, N. doe acknowledge my selfe as base a villaine as thou thy selfe: and therefore, see thou meete me to morrow at such a place.

A Spanish Souldiour, challenged an Italian Gentleman to the field: Whereunto the Italian excepted, as in respect he was the better; neuertheles (he said) I haue a boy that shall fight with thee in the right of my quarrell, where er'e thou dareſt to appoint: The Spaniard hereunto thus answered: Let that boy come: for boy, or base how er'e he be, I will accompt him thy better.

IT was vpbraided to one that he turn'd his backe to his enemie, and ranne away; He answered: No; I did but trauerſe

traverse my ground in the fury of my spirites.

A Gentleman, who was none of the wisest, was deputed Iudge in iest, of a Iust betweene two other Gentlemen: And one saying vnto him; (Sir) how thinke you of this last course, hath not Maister N. lost his Launce? meaning that he had not counterchaught it vpon his aduersaris: whereunto he answered: if Maister N. haue lost his Launce, let him seeke it out againe.

A Gowtie Gentleman challenged to runne with one for a wager: what wager (said th'other?) He answered, For humours.

A Nolde Gentleman being a hunting, lost one of his Beagles, and vnderstanding that such a young Gallant had taken it vp, sent to him to demand it: which the youth refusing to deliuer, the next day, he sent him a challenge to the field. But the young Gentleman return'd him this answer: That in regarde of his weake olde age, he would not so much disdaine his vigorous youth, as to encounter him in Armes. Whereunto the olde Gentleman replyed: That notwithstanding that he was a young boy indeed, yet was it vngratefully done of him, in that he did not at leastwise daigne to thanke him for such proffered spurres, how euer he durst or listed not to accept them, being offered to such his infant yeares of vndesert.

TRAVAYLERS BY LAND *and Sea.*

A Trauailing Gentleman being returnd home out of Italy, discoursed to a friend of his a very vnlikely accident that had befallen him by the way. Whereat his page standing by, said: I beseech your worship giue me leaue to beleeue it.

IN a common betweene two Ale-houses, stood a faire stone crosse, and two Gentlemen ryding by it, the one of

them said: See where stands a Crosse betweene two Theeues. One of the Ale-house hostes ouerhearing him say so, was all in a pelting chafe, and fouly taunted the Gentleman therefore: Who answered, Why (my friend) thou art the good Theefe.

TWo Trauailers met together at an Inne, and a fat Capon was seru'd vp to their boord, At dinner time one asked the other, whether he had a father liuing or no? He answered no: And withall told him a long discourse how, and where, and how long since his father died? Meane time th'other eat vp all the best of the Capon: Which the tale-teller at last perceiuing, halfe angry, said vnto him: Now that you haue heard the discourse of my fathers death, I pray you tell me, haue you also ere a Father liuing? He answered, no. Now I pray you then tell me (quoth th'other) how he died: He very earnest at his victuals, briefly answered: Sodainely, very sodainly.

A Gentleman of Henry the eights priuy Chamber, hauing got leaue to trauaile, and being returned home, the King demanded of him diuers questions touching his trauaile: amongst the rest he asked him if he had seene the citty of Venice? and he answered, I: then the King demanded, of what state and beauty it was? he reply'd that truely he had taken little note thereof, for he had but onely galloped poast through it by night and so departed.

A Mastiffe dog flew vpon a passenger, and he with the pike of his staffe ran him into the guts, and kil'd him: The owner of the dog hereupon commenc'd his action against the party: And the matter being brought to the vpshot, the Iudge asked him why he did not rather strike the dog with the wood end of the staffe, then with the pike? He answered: And like your Honour, he flue at me with his teeth, not with his tayle.

DOn Iohn de Figueroa vsed to say: That he that euermore alleadgeth in his conuersation other mens sayings, is like a gowty nayle, that cannot enter the wood, except an augar make the way before.

A Trauailer

A Trauailer méting a Country-man, asked him the way to such a place: The Country-man told him, and withall brought him partly on his way: and as they rode together, he toke exceptions to the Trauailers bag, which he wore lagging downe his belly before, and said: It is the manner of this country to weare bags at our sides, not vpon our bellies as you doe. Whereunto the Trauailer answered: I weare it thus, because I suppose there are many theeues in this country.

AN olde man trauailing into a farre country, and being some eight or nine daies iourney on his way, al hot and pursie as he was, wrote a letter to his wife, in which he said: As for my health (wife) I am well (I thanke God) hetherto, onely I finde my breath somewhat short, insomuch as I dare assure me if euer I die, it wil be for want of breath and nothing else.

A Water-man ferried a Gentleman ouer a riuer, who was booted and spurr'd, and went to take horse on th'other side the water; to whome the Gentleman said: How chanceth it (my friend) that thou worke'st this day, being Ascention day? he answered: It semes (sir) your Worship meanes to ride to day.

AN Hostler taking a Gentlemans boots downe to make cleane: The Gentleman said vnto him: I pray thee (fellow) let my bootes alone, for th'old durt will serue to keepe out the new.

TWo Trauailers swapt horses one with another, and when they had done, the one of them said: Now at a word you haue as errant a jade as euer went on foure legs, for he is foundred, he hath the scratches, he is broken winded, &c. Th'other answered: Then haue I but mine owne againe.

ONe trauailing on a frosty morning through a country village, was set vpon by a Mastiffe: He stooping for a stone to throw at him, & feeling it hard frozen to the earth, said: A pox on the country where the stones are ty'd, and dogs let lose.

A Plaine Gentleman riding vpon a leane large horſe, a Gallant that met him, ask'd him what a yarde of his horſe was worth: with that he bid his man alight, and lift vp his horſe taile vnto him, and then he anſwered. Enter into the ſhop, and they within will ſhew you.

A Trauailer affirming that he ſawe a Cole-wort ſo monſtrous huge that 500. men on horſ-backe might ſtand in her ſhade. Another anſwered: And I for my part did once ſee a Chaldron ſo wide, that 300. men wrought therein, every one diſtant twenty yardes from other. When the Cole-wort lyer asked him, to what vſe the Chaldron was made: he anſwered. To ſeeth your Colewort in.

A Trauailer vſed to tell monſtrous lyes of his iourneys, and of the places & things he had ſeene. And being one day in conuerſing with many Gent. and boaſting that he had ſeene theſe and theſe places: one of them ſaid vnto him: Belike you are ſeene in Coſmography: No (he anſwered) I neuer was in that City yet, but indeed I remember I once trauailed in ſight of it, leauing it ſomwhat on the left hand, but ſuch was my haſt, that I ouerpaſt it, as I haue done many a faire Citie more in my dayes.

ONe accompaned another many daies together about his affaires, and finding himſelfe not duely comply'd withall for ſuch his curteſie, vpbraided him with his aforeſaid trauaile; Whereunto th'other anſwered. As much went I with you, as you with me.

A Trauailer comming to his Inne, ſawe a fat Gooſe at the fyer, and deſired to haue it to dinner, and when it was ſerued vp, it ſmelt extreamely, inſomuch that the traueller cal'd for his Hoſt and bad him ſmell what he had ſent vp: the hoſt preſently ſwore that the Gooſe was ſtaine but that morning: A vengance on you ſaid the traueller you kil'd her ſhyting then: for I am ſure ſhe ſtinkes ſtill abhominably.

ONe that had beene whipt at a carts taile for a miſdemeanor fled his country for very ſhame, and embark'd away to an obſcure Iland in the ſea, where he ſpent the remainder of his life: and walking one day in the high ſtreet

of

of the towne, where he remained, hée chanced to sée a poore fellow whipt at a Carts taile along the strét, and in compassion of his case, he said: Lord how can this poore soule endure all this whipping chére? By chance one that stood by, and knewe his foresaid correction at home in his owne country, answered. Euen (as a man would say) as well as he that had abidden the like whipping-chére before.

DOnIuan de Vrbina vsed to say: That such as report newes of strange countries, are like vagabonds, whose garments consist rather of patches, then of any principall péece.

A Poore young Gentleman carrying his dombe olde mother before him vpon a Mule: The Duke of Nazareth ouertooke him on the way, and he thinking it good manners to beare the Duke company, the rather because hée had a Gentlewoman before him, offered to prelle nere him, to the end to ride chéeke by iowle by him: His olde mother being more considerate, and séeing his follie, spurn'd the Mule as hard as she could out of the way: But the wise-acre her son séeing her do so, thought that she did it rather to hasten neere vnto the Duke: wherupon he in that conceit set spurres vnto the Mule so fiercely, that the Mule war'd stark mad withall, and in his fury ranne into a ditch, where (in the Dukes sight) he threw them both downe, viz. The mother vndermost with all her cloathes about her eares, and her sonne vpon her, and the Mule vpon them both.

GOnzalo Fernandes arriuing safe a shore in Spaine after a great tempest, and looking back to the sea, hée espied another ship tending to the same shore, and vpon the poope of it, a Gallant clad all in crimson veluet: Whereupon Don Diego de Mendoza, asking him who he thought that might be? Hée answered: it is Santelmus, who neuer appeareth but after a tempest.

IN a perrilous storme at sea, a passenger of the companie, whiles all the rest were a weéping and praying, and making humble vowes to God for their safeties, fell hard to his victuals: And being for such his impietie reprehended, hée answered: Being to drinke by and by so great a draught of

water,

water, is it not méete (trow ye) that I victuaile my paunch well afore hand?

A Passenger at sea féeling his stomacke rise, said vnto the maister of the ship: I pray hold still the ship a while, till I vomite.

A Ship sayling toward Peru, a mighty storme arose and endangered it: Whereupon the Captaine charged euery man to throwe into the sea, the heauiest thing he could best spare, to the end to lighten somwhat the ship. A passenger that had his wife there, offered then to throwe her ouerbord, but the company rescued her: And being asked what he apl'd so to doe, he answered: Shée is the heauiest thing I haue, and I can best spare her.

ONe counsailed his friend to passe along by sea from Newcastle to London, affirming that with a good winde he might arriue there both sooner then by land, and with halfe the charge. Th'other answered: No, I lik not ride vpon a horse that goes an end, and that I cannot alight off him at all seasons when I lik my selfe.

A Water-man affirmed, that all boates were females; And his reason was, because folk vse to enter into them.

A Ship being by mischãce set on fire vpon the coast of Peru, and past all recouery, a Soldiour threw himselfe into the sea, and said: Some rost, some sod.

A Fishmonger in a tempest at sea, séeming to feare drowning: The Marriners asked him, whether he fear'd to be eaten of Fishes? he answered: No, rather may Fishes feare me.

ONe praying his friend to lend him his cloake: The other answered: Séeing it raines not, what néede you ue'e a cloake? and if it should raine, why then should I néede it my selfe.

OF POLITITIANS.

A Politician wonted to say: Who so deceiues me once, God forgiue him: If twise, still God forgiue him, and

God

God forgiue me: But if thrise, still God forgiue him, but ner'e forgiue me.

ONe vsed to say, that men now a dayes make more of all thinges, then our fore-fathers did, all but our graues.

ONe would néedes proue that men now adaies are wiser then men of olde time, and his reason was: Because they could remedy euill onely with good, but men now adayes can remedy one mischiefe with another.

ONe vsed to say: That it is alwaies good to misse a friend before he be missing.

ONe vsed to say: Better be poore at the beginning then at the latter ending.

ONe ask'd Borgea Cæsar what was the best rule in policy? he answered: To loue no man but himselfe, or if any man, to do it for himselfe.

ONe ask'd the same Borgea, whether an honest seruant or a dishonest were better? he answered: Both were of like vertue, and it was méete to preserue both for their seuerall vses.

ONe ask'd Machiuell how he might doe, neuer to be deceiued? he answered him: Neuer to trust any man.

ONe ask'd the Duke of Guise how he should beare himselfe against his aduersarie? and the Duke answered: Oppose whatsoeuer he saith (be it right or wrong) because he said it, for it is méet you be as carefull to break his faction as to strengthen your owne.

DOmitian would say, the onely way to winne the Roman peoples heartes, was to promise all thinges, and performe nothing.

LYpsius being asked how a man might kéepe a good seruant? answered: By not making him rich, for wealth onely alters purposes.

PHilip Duke of Burgundie was wonted to say, Of great personages speake neither good nor bad: For if you speake good of them, happily thou belyest them: if euill, thou maist repent it.

A Polititian alwaies wisht his enemie these three auantages, viz. A iust plea in law, to loue such as wisht ill, and to win at the beginning of play.

A Polititian aduising a young Gentleman to deale doubly, and dissemble twenty manner of faces in the affaire he had in hand: He answered; I list not slaue my selfe to so many faces, for that one good face is both better worth, and a great deale easier to represent.

A Politition aduising a well disposed person to counterfeit a patient behauiour to such a ones extreame rudenesse, seeing he was likely in time to receiue some benefit at his hands, if he pleasd him well: Thy other answered: I list not slaue my selfe to dauantages.

The Italians vse to say, *De che me fio, me guarde Iddio; De chemo me fio, me guardare Io*: Thatis,

A fained friend God shield me from his danger.
For well Ile saue my selfe from foe and stranger.

OF SVTE AND SVTERS.

One Henrie Goldingham that had long sued to her Maiestie for her signet to his granted suite, and her Maiestie still saying that she had no pen and inke at hand to doe it, at last he humbled his bill to hee highnesse sute, and said: May it then please your Maiestie but to step your royall foote hereupon, and I my selfe will then warrant it for good. Her maiestie so well liked of such his merry conceipt, that presently calling for pen and inke, did daigne to signe it.

The Cardinall Don Pedron Gonzales being 80. yeares olde, a seruitor of his as olde, or rather older then himselfe, besought him of the Alchaldeship of Canales, an office which was lately fallen into his graunt: Whereunto the Cardinall answered, that hee was sorry he had spoken so late, for asmuch as he had already graunted it to another, promising that the next that fell, he should haue it without

all

all faile: Oh my good Lord (reply'd the seruitor) but what thing in this worlde can sooner fall boyde then your grace or I?

AN Italian Captaine in the Low countries besought the Duke of Parma of an vnreasonable sute which: the Duke refused him, & he humbly thanked his Alter therefore: Whereat his friends and fellowes by, mervailing, he said: Euen humble thankes for that his Excellence hath so spedily dispacht me.

A Young Nobleman in Spaine, suing a Duke for his Dutchie: in the midst of all the law, fell in loue with a very meane Gentlewoman, whose name was Blanke, and married her forthwith: Whereat his father was in great chafe, and said: The foole suing for the Dukedome, would he be pleased with a Blanke?

A Porter man was an humble suter to a Gentleman, who said vnto him; I pray thee (fellow) be gone, for thy breath stinks miserably of garlicke: He answered, Not I Sir, happily it is my sute that stinks vnto you.

A Meane souldior suing vnto Alexander for a reward, he gaue him a Citie, and the souldiour told him it was too great a guifte, and his merit had not deserued such a recompence; Sir (sayde Alexander) I doe not looke what is fit for you to haue, but what is meete for me to giue.

A Gentleman passing along vnder his Mistrelle window, she chanced (spitting out thereat) to spit vpon him, and forthwith perceiuing her amisse, craue'd pardon of him therfore; who answered: Forsoth (Lady) a Fisher-man wets and dables himselfe all day long, and perchance catcheth but shrimps in the end: and I to catch so faire a Trout as you, doe you thinke I can loth so slight a deale? Faith no.

A Reuerend person besought a largesse of a Prince for a friend of his, and the Prince refus'd it him; he neuertheles still intreated, and it would not be: till at last, humbling himselfe vpon his knee at the Princes foote, with much entreatye he obtaind it: Many a Gentlemen standing by, condemn'd such his too much baseness, considering his grauitie and wisedome, and told him, that he had therein

greatly discredited his reuerence and magnanimitie: He answered, that is not my fault (Gentlemen) but the Princes, whose eares (as you see) are in his heeles.

One besought a Judge for iustice, and thus he said: My good Lord, whereas the iniurie that such a one hath done me, is very hell: Now, howsoeuer it shall please your L. to end the matter, I will accompt it heauen.

OF GAME AND GAMSTERS.

A Ladie had an vnthrifty sonne, and she being to take water on a time, and seeing the billowes rough, and the winde high, said vnto him: Sonne, if I drowne to day, pray thee play not away my cloathes till I be buried.

One vsed to say, that dice and purging pilles were of like nature: for that a little of th'one purgeth a mans paunch throughly, and a little of the other a mans purse.

One dispraised Dice, and said, that Dicers are worse then Vsurers: for that they with a hundred get but ten, but Vsurers with ten, happily get a hundred.

A Captaine and a Marchant plaid at dice, & the Captaine lost, & swore lustily ouer and anon: At last hauing lost all, he snatched it all away from the marchant againe: wherat the Marchant amaz'd, stood trembling and said: Captaine, if you meant I should not carie away any winnings, what ail'd you to sweare and rage so at euery word?

Fernando Gonzales wonted to say, that a great gamester could hardly be an honest man, because he both heares that in play which he may not well abide, and vttereth that which others may no lesse abide.

One asked a great Dicer of pale complexion, what was the reason he still looked so pale and wan: He answered: So lookes the money I lost at play.

One

One ask'd another what Gallant that was, that passed by so bravely towards the Court, so stately mounted, and attyr'd all in Gold? Mary (quoth he) it is one maister F. a Gentleman that maintaines himselfe so gallant as you see, onely by play. By play? (reply'd the other) In truth I have not seene any, that hath so well redeemed his owne defaults by others defaults.

A Friend aduis'd a great gamester his kinsman to giue ouer play, affirming that it was a great sinne, and a folly both: Whereunto th'other answered: rather is it an especiall vertue, and a singular remedy against all the seauen deadly sinnes. For first, how can that man be proud (trow yee) who after having lost an hundred or a thousand pounds at Dice with a Noble man, will afterward be so humble, as to venture his Tester with a Lacky? Or how can that man be couetous, that cannot safegard his vtmost penny for play? Or how can he possiblie be lustie to women, that continually tyres himselfe out at play? Or how can he be a glutton, that dare not bestow a Tester on his bellie, for feare he should want it at play? Or how can he be enuious of other mens goods, that is so carcles of his owne? Or how can he be easily angry, that puts vp a thousand curses euery night, for sitting vp so late at play? Or how can he be accompted slothfull, that sits vp whole dayes and nights at play, and neuer lins playing?

A Great Gamester in London, hauing cheated a young nouice of his money exceeding grossly, a Gentleman standing by and seeing the same, drew the Gamester to one side and asked him, if he were not ashamed to coosen the poore young Gentleman so basely? but he answered: No, for since nature had coosend him of his wit, it was no shame for him, to cheate him of his wealth.

One discommending Bul bayting in Spaine with darts, where the Bull is suffered to runne loose: and his reason was: Because it teacheth men to runne away.

PEdro Maxia a Spanish Croniographer, wonted to say, that belike it is a shamefull thing to run at the ring, seeing none doe it bare fac'd, but with their Beuers downe.

A Gentleman who did greatly stut and stammer in his speech, playing at Mawe, laid downe a winning Carde, and then said vnto his partner; How sa-ay ye now, wa-was not this ca-ca ard pa-as-assing we-we-well la-a-ayd? Yes (answered th'other) It is well alyd, but yet it needes not halfe that cackling.

A Moore viewing the Bull bayted with dartes in an inclosed compasse of ground, where both the Bull and the men fought loosely and in danger: a Spaniard asked him how he liked that sport? He answered, To little for earnest, and too much for Iest.

A Greasie companion lost his money at Cardes, and in his rages still said: The Deu'll take me: At last a stander by hearing him say so, answered: So would he (I warrant you) were it not for feare of your bird-lime.

A Cogging companion asking a ciuill Gentleman, whether he would play with him at Dice? He answered, No, with no such lucratiue fellowes as you.

A Gamester ought a Gentleman (a friend of his) fiue pounds, and hauing lost all his money at Dice, sent to borrow fiue pounds more, by the token that he ought him already fiue poundes: Whereunto the Gentleman thus answered the Messenger: Bid your maister send me the token, and then I'le send him the fiue poundes.

The end of the first booke.

WITS, FITS, AND FANCIES.

THE SECOND PART,

OF POPES AND PRELATES.

IT was discoursed at the Table of Pope Alexander the sixth, whether Physitians were necessarie in a common-wealth, yea or no? some affirming that Rome being sixe hundred yeares and odde without them, the Citizens liued in good health, and lustie all that while: And therefore a kinde

a kinde of Cattell, that might very well be ſpared in a common wealth. Not ſo (ſaid the Pope) rather are they right neceſſarie (in my opinion) for without them the world would increaſe ſo faſt, that one could not liue by another.

A Olde Seruitor of a Pope beſought him of the Archbiſhoprick of Sylence in the Ile of Serdinia, the ſaid ſuppliant being a very talkatiue and prating man: Whervnto the Pope anſwered: Truſt me, you haue no reaſon to craue that Sea of all others, being it will euermore approue you a lyar.

A Cardinall complained vnto Pope Clement the ſeauenth, how one Michael Angelo his Painter in a picture which he had drawne of Doomes-day in Saint Peters Chappell at Rome, had therein figured him in Hell amongſt the damned, beſeeching him to bid it be altered to ſome other fauour: Whereunto the Pope anſwered, Well you wot, I can releaſe a ſoule out of Purgatory but not out of Hell.

POpe Adrian the ſixth was minded to haue throwne Paſquins Image into Tyber, thereby to take away all occaſion of libelling, which was then vſed in Rome in the perſon of that Image; Whereunto the Duke of Seſa anſwered: If your Holines throwe Paſquin into Tyber, out of doubte he will turne to a Frogge, and then will he croke both day and night, whereas now his clamour is but onely in the day time.

FRier Frances Symenes being created Cardinal and Archbiſhop of Tolledo, wrote to an eſpeciall friend of his of ſuch the high honour he was call'd vnto, and of his good ſucceſſe: Whereunto the Gentleman anſwered, that as concerning his Graces perticular, he was glad he had attain'd ſo ſoueraigne a dignity: for that his vertues did deſerue no leſſe. But as for himſelfe, hee was ſorry that by ſuch his Graces promotion he had loſt ſo great a friend: As much to ſay, as true friendſhip can be but amongſt equals.

A Certaine man of Oſma in Spaine hauing his caſe to be diſcuſt and adiudg'd by the Cardinall Symenes his deputie in the towne of Alcula, tooke exceptions to the ſaid

Iudge

Iudge, as one whome he thought fauoured not his cause, and therfore besought his grace to assigne him some other Iudge either of Madryl or Guadalaiara: Whereunto the Cardinall gainesaying, and asking him what sufficienter man he thought was in Madryl or Guadalaiara to determine his matter then his foresaid deputy in Alcala? To this the man of Oima repli'd: And like your grace there was one found in Tordelaguna, who was worthy to be Cardinall and Archbishop of Tolledo (meaning the Cardinall himselfe who was borne in that poore parish) And then doth your Grace thinke neither Madryl nor Guadalaiara can affoorde a sufficient Iudge of my plea?

A Cardinall passing along the streete, and being saluted by a band of soldiours with much shot, so as the smoke was very thicke and vnsauory: One of his Gentlemen besought him to hasten somewhat faster from out that fume: Oh no (answered the Cardinall) this is the sent that pleaseth me aboue all the incense in the world.

THe Cardinall Symenes being deputed high gouernour ouer all Spaine in the Emperour Charles his absence, & vnderstanding at last that the Emperour was now landed againe on the coast: At this present newes he disposed all the treasure he then had in his hands to the Colledge of Alcala, and to other Churches vses: as though that Spaine now needed no treasure for her defence, so long as the Emperour was there arriued in person. And as concerning the said treasure he said, that if an Angell from heauen should haue told him before the Emperours landing, that his Maiesty would not rid him thereof at his arriuall, he would haue thought him some deuill in an Angels shape: And that now no lesse would he thinke him a Deuill that should come and tell him that the Emperour would not acquite him thereof, hauing disposed it to so good vses.

THe foresaid Cardinall neuer bestowed benefice vpon any that came to beg it at his hands: It chanced on a time that a priest hearing of a rich benefice that was newly fallen in his country, and being very liquorish thereof, came vnto him, and thus bespake him: Most reuerend Sir, forasmuch

much as well I wot your Grace neuer bestowes benefice vpon any that craues it at your handes, I giue you to vnderstand that in my countrey there is a benefice fallen into your graunt, which would very well beseem mee, by reason it is neere the place where I was borne. Now I humbly beseech your Graces good aduice how I may come by it: Well (answered the Cardinall) you shall haue it, and forthwith he commanded his Secretary to draw him out a faire collation, which was done, and he had it.

THe Cardinall Don Pedro Gonzales de Mendoza, vpon a Christmas morning offered at a Masse an entire Altar-suit, so rich, as it was valued at eighteene thousand Crownes, and after his said Offertory ended, kneeling downe before the Altar, he there remained a good space in humble prayers and teares: Which the Marques of Cenete seeing, came to him, and said: Reuerend Father, I beseech you weepe no more, for I'le vndertake to get you the whole suite restor'd you againe.

THe said Cardinall seeing a Priest carrying a cudgell vnder his gowne, said vnto him: It ill beseemes your habit to beare a weapon about you: Whereunto the Priest answered and protested, that he bare it not in quarrell against any Christian creature in the world, but onely to defend himselfe against the Dogges of that towne, which he found to be fierce and angry Curres. Oh (reply'd the Cardinall) and wherefore (I pray you) then serues S. Iohns Gospell? He answered: True (my Lord) but these curres vnderstand no Latin; and therefore against them am I faine to beare this defence as you see.

ONe telling the Cardinal S. George (as he sat at dinner) that the Pope had sent Paul the Archdeacon of Saint Anastelin to speake with him: He made answer, That he would neither speake with Paul nor with Peter, no nor with Maister Nazareth now he was set at dinner.

THe Cardinall Don Alonso Manrique spent much, and ow'd much: There was in his Church a Channon, who was so good a fellow that he seldome eat at home, and yet neuertheles retayn'd a Steward in continuall standing

wages: Whereupon the Cardinall vpon a time merrily asking him what he meant to kéepe a Steward, hauing so little vse to put him to? The Channon no lesse merrily answered: Your Grace hath great reason, for in sooth (my Lord) my Steward and your Treasurer may very well be whipt at a Carts taile for vagabondes.

A Gentleman of Cardinall Wolseys, making way before his Lord as he passed through the Church, and séeing a poore Priest knéeling at his prayers in the way, raised him vp, saying: Roome for my Lord Cardinals Grace; Whereupon the Priest rose vp and said: Will his Grace (trowe ye) supplie my place?

A Bishoprieke was bestowed vpon one that sém'd to be a man of good life, but was not generally so reputed: And the Cardinall Loyasa gréeted him thus: My Lord, God send you ioy: and I am glad you are prouided of a Sea, before your hipocrisie be fully ended.

DOn Alonso Cartilio, a Spanish Archbishop, his houshold expence was so excessiue, that on a time his Steward telling him, that except he toke some more moderate course of liuing, his rentes could not possiblie maintaine it: Well, (answered the Archbishop) set me downe then what meane you would haue me obserue in this matter: Whereunto the Steward replying, that it might please his Grace to put away all idle persons, and retaine onely necessarie ones: Well (reply'd the Prelate) but giue me then a note of such as you iudge necessarie, and another of the vnnecessary: The Steward did so: Then the morrowe after the Bishop commanding al his houshold before him into his great Hall, will'd his Steward to set his necessarie seruants in a rowe by themselues on the one side, and the vnnecessary ones likewise seuerall by themselues on the other side: which being done, he then said vnto his Steward: These necessary ones which you haue héere placed, I haue néde of them all, and these others (I tell thée) they haue all néde of me: Wherefore necessarie and vnnecessary, I will still retaine them all.

A Poore

A poore widowe that had her onely daughter to bestow, humbly besought the aforesaid Archbishop of his bounty towards her preferment. The Bishop was content, and calling for pen and inke, wrote a warrant downe unto the Country to his Steward to deliuer her fifty pounds, thinking indede he had written but fiue pounds: When the Steward saw the bill, he straight toke horse and rode vp to the Byshop, and tolde him: Your Grace hath awarded yonder poore widow fifty poundes for her daughter, and so it is that I haue not so much in hand. No (said the Byshop) what not poore fiue pounds? Yes sir, and like your Grace (answered the Steward) but your assignation is fifty pounds: Wée it fifty poundes then (reply'd the Byshop) for sure not I, but God or some of his good Angells set it downe so: Wherefore no more adoe, let her haue it. With that the Steward was faine to borrow it, and she had it.

The Archbishop of Cullen riding along the plaine all rounded about with men of warre, and himselfe most brightly glittering in Armes: A Swaine ploughing thereabouts laughed to see him so: Which the Prelat perceiuing, commanded him straight before him, and asked him why he laughed so? Mary I laugh (answered the Peasant) to see an Archbishop so bouldiourly gallant. Why sirrah (said the Bishop) I am thus as a Duke, not as an Archbishop or a Priest: Euen so sir (reply'd the Swaine) now I pray then cracke me this nut, were my L. Duke at the Deuill, where (trow ye) were my Lord Archbishop then?

The Archbishop of Granada, saying to the Archbishop of Toledo that he much meruelled he being so great a state would visite Hospitals, and performe to the sicke and needie such a deale of drudgerie as dayly he did. Maruell not hereat (answered the good Bishop) but rather well weighing with your selfe, what is the true dignity and duty of a Pastor, wonder at the many good duties I doe omitt.

A Spanish bishop riding on the way, saw a shepheard running himselfe vnder a banke, and thus he bespake him: I mernaile much (shepheard) that shepheards now adayes

are not like as they were in times past, when there were of them great Prophetes and great Kinges in the world, and to them it was that the Angell first denounced the nativitie of our Sauiour Iesus Christ afore all others. Oh Sir (answered the Shepheard) neither are Bishops now a dayes like to those good ones of olde time, at diuers of whose deathes the belles did ring of themselues, and now can scarce be made to tolle, but with many mens strength.

A Bishop sent halfe a dozen of Capons to an Abbot, and the bearer eat one of them to his dinner by the way: Now when th'Abbot had read the Bishops letter, which certified that he had sent him sixe Capons, he then said vnto the messenger. My lad, I pray thee tell my Lord Bishop, I humblie thanke his Lordshippe for fiue Capons, and as for the sixth, giue thou him thankes for it thy selfe.

A Bishops Chaplaine helping his Lord on with his Rochet, and being somwhat long a drawing on the sleeues: Why when? (said the Bishop) me thinkes you are very tedious about this geare. And like your Grace (he answered) your sleeues are very straight: very straight indeed (reply'd the Bishop) for well I wot, full twenty yeares haue I trauailed to get them on, and till this time could I neuer attaine to doe it.

IN a solemne festiuitie which was holden at Guadalajara in Spaine, two Gentlemen appeared to the multitude in Clergie attire, to discharge vnto them some Churchmerriment: and being demaunded in a Bishoppes name, who was there present, who they were? We are (quoth they) two Arch-deacons of the Church of Vtica, and so tell your Lord: The said Bishop being Prelate of that place.

BIshop Gardener being depriued of his Bishoprieke, one thus saluted him in derision: Farewell Bishop Olim: He answered: Gramercie knaue Semper.

LOrd Cromwell reproching Bishop Gardener, being depriued of his Bishoprieke by the King, said: Where is now

now (Sir Bishop) all your *Gloria patri* become? He answered: Euen as it pleased the King my Liege: Neuertheless, *sicut erat in principio*, so am I still (my Lord) as good a gentleman as your selfe.

A Chanonrie of the Church of Cuenca was fallen into the Bishops graunt, and a certaine scholler, who had before time translated out of Latine into Spanish the vaine workes of Tostado, became an humble suter to the Bishop for it; which the Bishop deny'd him, saying: It is no creame to be eaten with Tostados, viz. Tostes.

One besought a worshipfull Gentleman to be a meanes for him to a Bishop to forgiue him a certaine dribling debt: The Gentleman answered, His power is to binde, not to loose.

One Frier Rapiero, a famous preacher, had a petty Bishoprieke bestow'd vpon him in the Ile of Corsica: And one pitying his no higher preferment, said: Alas, it is too small a pommell for such a Rapier.

The Cardinall Don Alonso Carillio enioyn'd his Iester to bring him at euery months end a chronicle of all merrie matters that had happened in the meane time: The Cardinall within a while after entertained an Alcumist, to whome being but newly come, he deliuered a thousand Crownes to goe to Tolledo to buy him all manner of implements belonging to the Art. ... which meane time he called for his foresaid Chronicler to knowe what occurrentes were befallen that month? When the Iester among other foleries, read vnto him what a monstrous follie he himselfe had committed, to trust a stranger with a thousand crowns, whome happily he should neuer see more: Whereunto the Cardinall answered: But what if he doe come againe how then? Mary then (reply'd the Chronicler) will I put you out, and put him in your place.

A Pick-thanke telling a Prelate that such a Gentleman had highly slandered him in publike; and that withall aduising him to reuenge it in a very high degree: He answered: And wherefore (I pray ye then) serue these wordes of Christ, *Mihi vindictam & ego retribuam?*

CArdinall Medices a Duke of Florence, seeing certaine Iewes walke Sabothly vpon a Saterday in his faire Garden on Mount Trinity in Rome, commanded them (in despight of such their Saterday Sabboth) to be imployed all that day in seruile worke in his said Garden, and at night made them a liberall Supper of good cheere. Amongst which he caus'd minc'd Porke to be set afore them, so cunningly disguis'd, and besaue'd, that they vnwittingly fell to it, and eat thereof, contrary to their superstitious pork-opinion in that poynt: And after they had supt, paid them a large day-wages, and so dismist them: They at parting being told of the disguiz'd Porke they had eaten, were starke mad; and whereas before they held themselues guilty onely of their seruile labour that day (it being their Sabboth day) now were they outragious testy at both together: And in a full stomacke of detest, flung downe their wages, and would none of it; But to their Synagogue they hy'd them, and there tolde their Rabbin of all the premisses: Whereupon he forthwith excommunicated the Cardinall, and deeply accurs'd him to the pit of hell in full congregation: Which he vnderstanding, went the next day to Pope Pius Quintus, and in iest tolde him all the story, as aforesaid, concluding with the Rabbins excommunication and accurse against him: And withall merrily besought the Pope to release him thereof. The Pope toke it in farre other sence, and greatly rebuked the Cardinall therefore, affirming that he had done a very scandalous act, so to force the conscience of a Iew, they not being sheepe of Christs fold, and therefore without the liberty of his Croizier to pastorize, much lesse to enforce in matter of Religion: So saying, he enioin'd him a very seuere penance, both personall an pecuniarie.

OF PRIESTS AND FRYERS.

A Silly Fryer came to a Doctor of Toledo, and told him that he thought he had incur'd irregularity, for saying to

to his Asse by the way as he accompaned certaine prisoners to execution: Naught beast, and on a Gods name: supposing that by reason therof he had so much the sooner brought the poore prisoners to their ends. To whome the Doctor answered: In reparation of that irregularitie, you must seeke out the said Asse againe, and as often as you said then vnto him, naught beast: or on a Gods name, so often say vnto him now, Hoe beast, faire and softly a Gods name.

A Confessor comming to visite a sicke poore woman in bed, and after hauing heard her confession, and giuen her good ghostly aduise to God-ward: At his departure the poore widdow willed her maid to giue him the fattest Capon shée had: The maide did so, and the priest accepted it, and went his way. Shortly after the woman recouered her health, and walking abroad, she missed among other her Poultrey this Capon, and forgetting how she had bestowed it, she called her maid to her, and asked her what was become of it? Whereunto the maid answered that she had giuen it in her sickenes time to the Priest: thee said, What a foule ill, did I so? So often had I giuen it heeretofore to the Deuill when I missed it, and still it came againe, and giuing it but once to the Priest hath he carried it quite away?

A Great Preacher, ambitious of a Bishopricke: On a time after his sermon ended, comming downe the Pulpit, a gentleman of great worship standing by, proferred him his hand to helpe him downe: Pardon me sir (said the preacher) may it please you rather to help me vp with your frendly hand, for downe (alas) I can come alone all to easilie.

A Church man passing along by a Country Gentlemans doore, a Mastife dog flue vpon him, and all to betore his cloake. The morrowe after returning that way againe, he chanced to see the Gentleman then standing at his gate, and this dog by him, to whome he said: Sir, either tie vp your dogge, or kisse his taile: Euen so plaine (answered the Gentleman:) Beleeue me, since you so friendly put it to my choise, I will rather of the two tie him vp.

A Frier following a Bishop all faire and softly after, as being much diseased with the Cowte: One of the Bishops

Bishops Gentlemen said vnto him: On, on, Father, you nede not feare falling on this faire earth. The Fryer answered: Men doe not fall because they feare falling, but they feare least they should fall.

A Spanish Frier hauing granted vnto him a Bishoprick in India: Hee thus bespake the Emperours Secretary that drew the assignation. Sir, because I knowe how dangerous a thing a Bishoprick is to one that knowes not how to discharge his pastorall dutie therein as hee ought, and knowing withall my owne insufficiencie in that behalfe, I am verily of that opinion, that for mee to be a Bishop were my high way to hell. And in soth to goe to hell by India is a great way about: Wherefore I pray you assigne me some nearer Sea, or none at all.

A famous Preacher, who had long sued for a Bishoprick, and could not attaine to any, vsed to say, that out of doubts if it rain'd Oysters, not any one would light vpon his head.

One Fryer inuited another to his Cell to dinner, and vpon some occasion the inuitant Frier sent forth his boy, & then said vnto th'other: The world reports you the son of a Gentleman, and for my part I verily thinke no lesse, so trimme and gracious is your conuersation. Whereunto the other answered: certainely if you speake this to frump me, you are much to blame, and if to commend me, why did you send away the boy.

The Pope and the King of Spaine betweene them created Frier Frances Symones Arch-Bishop of Toledo: Fryer Pasquill, Bishop of Burgos, and Fryer Diego Desa Archbishop of Valentia, all on one day: Whereupon one merrily said, that the Pope and the King play'd all that day at Friers Trump, or at Friers Ruffe.

A Fryer that was vesting himselfe to Masse, a Gentleman pray'd him to say a Hunters Masse (meaning a breife Masse) with that the Frier tooke his Missall, & turn'd it all ouer leafe by leafe, continuing so doing a good while: Which the Gentleman thinking long, at last said vnto him: I pray you Father dispatch, Me thinkes you are very long

a regi-

a registring your Psalter: Why sir, (answered the Frier) you bespeake a Hunters Psalter, and in sooth I can finde no such Psalter in all my booke.

A Priest extreamly suspecting himselfe to be a Cuckold, fell hart sicke with the conceite thereof, in somuch that a friend of his comming to visite him, ask'd him how he fared, and where his griefe lay: Whether in his head, or at his heart, or in what other member? And he made answere that he was onely troubled with a bad liuer meaning his wife that liued badly.

A Dominican & a Franciscan Fryer trauailling together on the way, arriued at a brooke, where the Dominican requested the Franciscan, in as much as he was bare-foote, to carry him ouer the water on his backe: The Franciscan was content, and vp he toke him, and into the riuer he went: and being kept into the channell, there he paws'd, and said to the Dominican: Tell me (brother) haue you any money about you? The Dominican thinking that he aymed thereby at a consideration for his paines, answered: Yea marie haue I a little, but not much: Much or little then (reply'd) the Franciscan, well you wot my order allowes me not to carie any money about me, though well you may. And therefore, And with that downe he let slip the Dominican into the channell, where his money could not saue him from being very well wet.

THe Portugalles keepe holy the battaile day of Aliubetoto, in which they ouerthrew and slew many thousand Spaniardes in the field: Vpon which festiuall Anniuersary day, one Frier Iohn Hurtado the Kings confessor, comming to salute his Maiestie, The King said vnto him: Tell me Father Hurtado, how like you this triumphant day of ours against the Spaniardes? Haue they any such holy-dayes of victories against vs? Oh no my Liege, (answered the Frier) they are not halfe so happy a people: But as for Portugall, if it should keepe holy all her victories and conquestes against Spaine, euery day in the yeare would be a holy-day amongst vs, whereby we should stand in danger of famine for want of working-dayes.

AN vnlearned countrey Vicar preaching to his Parishioners against their continuall Ale-house going, vsed this argument: Sirs (quoth he) you that loue Ale so well, if you wist of what bad stuffe it were made, you would loath it: For it is made of a thing call'd Malt. Now (I pray you) what is Malt but M. A. L. T. as much to say, as M. much, A. ale, L. little, T. thrift.

A Plaine countrey Vicar perswaded his Parishioners in all their troubles and aduersities, to call vpon God, and thus he said: There is (dearly beloued) a certaine familiar beast amongst you called a Hog, see you not, how toward a storme or a tempest it crieth euermore, ourgh, ourgh: So must you likewise in all your eminent troubles and dangers, say to your selues, Lourghd, Lourghd, helpe me.

ONe Peter Martyr Cronicler to the King of Spaine, had béene a long time suter for a Bishoprick, and hearing at the last that foure seuerall Confessors were prouided at so many seuerall Seas at once, he said: Faith, amongst so many Confessors one Martyr would very well haue become their company.

A Frier whose name was Bonaduenture comming to be acquainted with another Frier, whose name was Maluer, as much to say in English as speed ill: Bonaduenture said vnto him: Lord (brother Maliuer) how many soules for me and chance on you?

TWo Monkes were accompted passing vertuous men, and the one of them was very fatte and grosse, and well complexioned, and th'other pale and megre. The Pryor being asked on a time by a Nobleman what might be the reason of so different effects of vertuous living: hée answered: And like your Honour, ponder fatte brother thinkes onely of God and of the Ioyes of Heauen, and this other of death, dooms-day and hell.

ONe vsed to say that follie fatted the Gentleman, and lewde conditions baleanes Cleargiemen.

DOn signifies in Spanish Sir. A Frier hearing a Duke's Vsher calling a many of his Lords gentlemen together, and saying Don Iohn, Don Alonso, Don Rodriguez, &c.

He

Hee adioyn'd: And I warrant you, there is ne're a Donum Spiritus-sancti among all these Dons.

A very learned preacher was condemn'd of too much tediousnesse in his sermons, in that he vsed oft times to repeat one thing twise: whereupon preaching on a time, he said vnto the people. Brethren I vnderstand you condemne me of ouer tediousnes in my Sermons; Now the truth is, I am sure very few of you vnderstand me well the first time, and therefore am I faine to repeat it once againe, and then in doing so, you say I am to tedious: And (good faith) to repeat it once and a halfe, that's worst of all, and I am sure you will like that neither.

A Fryer following a many Gentlewomen in the streete, who with their long traines rais'd vp a great dust after them: At last they seeing the Fryer were behinde them, for reuerence stood still and made him way: Who as he past along by them, said: Know ye (Gentlewomen) that the dust of the sheepe is a load-starre to the Woolfe.

A Gentleman came to visit a widow Gentlewoman, and as he entred into the house, he met two Fryers comming forth, and ouerhearing the Gent. saying to her maid: Ponder Friers smell like Rats: The Gentleman adioyn'd, And happily haue done like Rats.

A Graue Doctor that had bin a long time suter at Rome to the Cardinall of Toledo for a Chamonrie in that church, obtain'd it in the end, and then presently wrote a letter to a friend of his in Toledo, giuing him to vnderstand, that whereas he had all that while gone vp and downe like an Ape in the streetes of Rome, without e're a tayle, he should now see him shortly there at Toledo like a Squirrell with tayle enough. Written in reference to the long traines that those Chamons weare.

A Reuerend Church man being done a secret disgrace vnsatisfiable by the partie that did it, and he yet not knowing him, said; Ah poore despight, that makes the Author pepe in his head for shame.

OF DOCTORS AND SCHOLLERS.

IT was a great controuersie in the Vniuersity of Leyden betweene the Phisicke & Law Doctors, whether of them should take place formost at the Commencements: And a merry Chancellor being deputed Iudge of the difference, asked them whether at an execution, the fellon or the hangman ought to goe formost to the gallowes? They all answered, the fellon: Euen so (reply'd the Chancellor) Then yée Lawyers, goe yée formost as theeues, & yée Phisitians follow yée after as hangmen.

ONe asked a great Clearke how he might doe to become wise? Who answered: In sooth (friend) I can hardly resolue you: For you still goe one way, and wisedome another, that I doe not see how you can possibly meete.

A Profound Doctor of Law had neuer in all his life beene aboue three miles out of Salamanca, where he was both borne and bred vp: And being sent for on a time by a Nobleman dwelling some two daies iourney thence, as concerning his aduice in a waighty matter in Law, and hauing ridden his first daies iourney almost to an end, he then waxed weary, and would no further: But turn'd back againe to Salamanca, saying: I neuer thought the world had beene so great.

THere dwelt a graue Law Doctor in Salamanca, and a neighbours childe of his came somwhat early in a morning to craue a little fire of him: Take some my boy (he said) but wherein wilt thou carry it? Mary sir (he answered) thus: And with that he laid a quantity of Ashes vpon the palme of his hand, and the coales thereupon, and so went his way. The Doctor wondred hereat, and sware that with all the learning he had, he could not haue deuised so trimme a sleight.

PVnta in Spanish signifies a Size, and also a Stitch. An ignorant Spanish Doctor came to a Shoomaker, and bespake a paire of shoes for his sonne: And the Shoomaker

asked

asked him of what Punta, viz. what size: Mary (quoth he) that can I not yet shew you, but I will goe home and see, and bring you word in the afternoone: Home he went, and calling for a paire of his sons old shoes, he unript all the stitches thereof, and told how many there were of them: And then after dinner he went againe to the shoemaker, and said: My sons shoes are of the 64. Puntas, viz. stitches.

One was telling a Dunsicall Doctor how such a man was a great Scholler, but a very Foole; he marualld greatly thereat, and said: Well I wot, a man may be unlearned, but how learning may be without a man I cannot imagine.

A Graduate of Salamanca was to ride before a Gentlewoman, and for manners sake would needes haue her get vp first, which she refusing to doe, the more he urged her, and would needes haue it so: So absurd was his Schollerly ciuillity.

A Countreyman suspecting *Legier de maine* betweene his daughter and a young shepheard, came to a Doctor who was famed for a great Sooth-sayer in that country, and presented him a couple of Capons, and told him all his foresaid iealosie, craning withall to be forthwith resolued thereupon. Then the Doctor tooke a great booke, and turn'd ouer a many leaues, and made a great mumble to himselfe as seeming to conture: At last taking his spectacles off his nose: he asked the country-man both their ages: Who answering that his daughter was fifténe yeares old, and the shepheard three and twenty. Then the Doctor said: If it be so (friend) by Lady I doe not deny, but it may be so indeed; and so dismist him.

A Graue Doctor discoursing vnto two vaine Gallants vpon a poynt of naturall Philosophy, and one of them saying, that he vnderstood ne're a word: He answered, No meruaile, for empty barrells neuer sinck downe to the bottome.

One Doctor Villiaebos saying grace before the Emperour Charles, did it silently: Whereunto a vaine Gallant afterward excepting, and saying that it were much

better if he spake it out: He answered: Make me but a fole, and I'le speake as loud as you: But it will marre the grace quite.

One Docto; Mathew a famous Preacher in Salamanca, was a very little man: And one seeing him passe along in the streete, call'd him in iest, *Minimus Apostolorum*: Which he ouer-hearing, merily answered; Yet is Mathew *Maximus Euangeliſtarum*.

One that had a great good memory, and was very eloquent; and had withall but little learning: An other thus beiested him saying: That he had Rocke and Spindle ynough, but the Deu'll a whit of Yarne.

A Maister of Arte (amongſt others) bayted the bul with dartes, and trauersing along by the Duke of Infantasgo his scaffold, who knew both him and his little learning, said: And like your Grace the Culpe of a Darte dulles not litterature: True (answered the Duke) especially his, who hath but a little.

An olde Docto; which had bene a Protestant in King Edwards dayes, a Papiſt in Quéene Maries, and a protestant againe in Quéene Elizabeths, seeing a Lady dance a galliard, commended her dancing exceedingly, and she answered, that she knew she daunst well, onely she could not turne well, meaning his turning from his religion.

A Chunne slice of Cheese was set before a Scholler, who as soone as he saw it, laid his finger vpon his mouth; and being demaunded why he did so: he answered: Least my breath should blow it away.

A Many Schollers went to steale Conies, & by the way they warn'd a nouice among them to make no noiſe for feare of skarring the Conies away: At last he espying some, said aloud in Latine: *Ecce cuniculi multi*: And with that the Conies ranne into their berries: wherewith his fellowes offended, and chyding him therefore, he said: Who (the Deuill) would haue thought that Conies vnderstood Latine?

A Repetitor in a Colledge of Coimbra asked a Logick-Scholler, *Quid eſt prima?* He answered: Foure Cardes of

of foure seuerall sutes.

A Scholler of Salamanca wrote to his Father to buy him a booke intituled, *Digestum vetus* : And the sillie man return'd him this answere : (Sonne) Vetus me no Vetusses, but let it be spanne newe, and therefore doe I héere send you twise the price of it : doe buy it your selfe.

A Scholler was commending a Doctors wife (who had somtimes béene a Familiar of their Colledge) affirming that she was passing discréete, and of good deportment: Another answered : No marueill if shee be so, hauing a Familiar.

ONe that had a faire Librarie, and seldome or neuer betooke himselfe to studie, another said vnto him : It séemes that you and your bookes are at truce.

ONe being asked whether he thought such a man literate or no ? Hée answersd : I, his letters are like plaine song, few and grosse.

THe Marques of Antelliana wonted to say, that wée rest much bound to good Authors, because they both diswarne vs from vice, and aduise vs to vertue.

PLaton in Spanish signifies a platter, also it is the Spanish name for the great Philosopher Plato : A profound Scholler, and another being in rages, th'other threw a great Platon, viz. a Platter at the Scholler, and fore broke his head : One comming by in the meane time, and séeing the Scholler so highly disgraced : said to th'other ; You haue done you knowe not what, in misusing so great a Scholler : Th'other answered, Wel may he now proue a great Scholler indéed : For well I wot, he hath had a great Platon, viz. a Plato on his head.

OF POETS AND MVSITIONS.

THe Earle of Orgas vsed to say that hee is a foole that cannot make a Ballad, and a more foole that doth

make

make a Ballad.

One Garci Sanchez a Spanish Poet, became bestraught of his wits with ouer-much leuitie; And at the time of his distraction was playing vpon a Bandore. Now, certaine moneths after being partlie come to himselfe againe, he was inuited to play before a great magistrate of the towne, and he play'd vpon the selfe same instrument: which after that he had done, he deliuered it vp to the saide Magistrate, saying: So, now am I glad to see thee in the handes of Justice, that wrought it me so much woe.

A Scholler presented a gratulatory new yeare vnto Sir Thomas Moore in prose: And he reading it, and seeing how barraine and senceleslie it was, ask'd him whether hee could turne it into verse: He answered yes: With that Sir Thomas Moore deliuer'd it him againe so to alter: who within a two dayes after, came and brought it him all in verse: Which Sir Thomas Moore reading, and noting the rime, said: I marie, nowe is heere rime I see, whereas before was neither rime nor reason.

One seeing an excellent Poet crooked and deformed of person, said: Lord, what a poore cottage doth yonder good wit inhabite?

A Seruing-man serued in a Kids head to his Maisters board, and by the way eat vp all the braine of it: Wherevpon his maister asking what was become of the braine? He answered: Sir, it is a Musition kid.

A Scholler playing on the Bandore, one requested him to sing thereunto some curious fine song: He then began, *Nominatiue, hic, hec, hoc,: Genitiue huius, &c.*

One said of Musitions that they were the happiest craftsmen of all others, because they earne money with making themselues merrie.

A Musition was offered good exhibition in a Cathedrall Church, and he refused it and went to another place: Within a yeare after he came thither againe, hauing his voice much impaired, and there offered his seruice vpon the conditions which he formerly refused. Answere was made: Where you wasted your steele, there goe waste your pion.

A Poore

A Poore Knight of small reuenue retain'd a consort of Viols in his house, and asking at dinner time a Gentleman (a guest of his) how he liked of his musicke: He answered: They playe well, onely they want dauncers.

A Portugall had hir'd a Musition to play and sing for him at his Mistresse window: The Musition did so, and sung her a sonnet, whereof part went thus: Faire Mistresse hether am I come for you: Wherefore vouchsafe to pity me now &c. The Portugall war'd iealous hereat, and all to bombasted the poore fellow, saying: What (villaine) thou come for her, and she to pitie thee? I marie shall she, goe hang thee thou errand knaue.

A Portugall playd musicke at his mistresse windowe, and he vnkindly threw stones at him and droue him away. A friend of his then being with him, and seeing his extreame melancholly thereat; demon'd him, saying: What greater honour could betide you, then stones to flye about your musicke, and giue it audience as they did to Orpheus?

A Gentleman made musicke at his Mistres windowe, and sung her a song which began thus: My secret passions &c. An other Gentlewoman being then in place, and hearing him beginne so, said: Belike your seruant is sicke of the pyles.

A Princes Musition begg'd of his Altez the Captainship of the Castle of Tayle, and it was deny'd him: Whereupon being call'd within a while after to sing before the Princesse, he refused to come: Then the Princesse asking a Gentleman that stood by, what the foole ayl'd: He answered: And like your Highnesse, he hath vow'd neuer to sing more without a Tayle.

One vsed to say, that a foole and a dauncer differ but in this, That a foole is a foole all his life, and a dauncer but whiles he dauncth.

One hearing the Organs in a Church vpon a Wednesday in Lent, contrarie to the due of that season, said: That it was like a Pellowne in winter.

A Miser-Nobleman turn'd away his Musitions, & will'd them the next morning that they were to depart, to come and play him their last farewell under his windowe: They did so, and when they had all done, he paid them but their bare wages, and so dismist them. Whereupon one of them at parting said unto him: And like your Honour, so great misery deserues bag-pipes.

A Chamon asked a singing man who had but a shallow beard, how farre his hawke could flye without belles? (meaning that he thought he might starue but for his singing.) The singing man answered: Euen as farre as yours without his hood: So answered in reference to the hood he wore.

A Phisition being ask'd his opinion of musitions, said: sire were a consort, fiue Musitions, foure Fidlers, & three rogues.

A Gentleman being lame of his legges, yet playing rarely well on the Virginals, a friend of his hearing him play, said: Sir, you doe not play so well as you were woonte, he answered, foole dost thou not know that I am lame?

A Gentleman that plaid verie well vpon the Bandore, and had but a badde voyce, play'd and sung in an Euening vnder his Mistresse windowe, and when he had done, ask'd her how she liked his musicke? She answered: You haue playd very well, and you haue sung so.

A Nolde Piper vsed to say: If my auditors wist how much I delight my selfe in the musicke I make them, they would rather loke that I should giue them somewhat, then they giue me.

A Poore Musitions hose hung loosely about him for want of poynts, and playing on a time vpon a Bandore before a many Gentlemen, he did it very well, and to all their good likings: whereupon one of them said merrily vnto him, Faith (fellow) playing so many good poynts vpon thy Instrument as thou doest, bestow one vpon thy hose. He answered: Your worship hauing found that poynt, I desire you bestow it vpon me.

OF

OF PHYSICKE AND PHYSITIONS.

A Graue phisicke Doctor reading by candle light the secrets of Nature, and finding among other thinges that a large and a broad beard betokens a fole. He straight toke the candle in one hand, and a looking-glasse in th'other, and began to view what manner of beard his owne was. Now, holding the candle ouer nere: The flame set it on fire, and burnt it halfe off. Then all in a chafe throwing downe the glasse, he toke pen and inke, and wrote in the margine of his secret, *Probatum est.*

A Vintner had taken in three or foure hogsheads of good wine, and seeing a Physition passe along, he fill'd an Vrinall halfe full of it, and show'd it him for a sicke mans water. The Physition viewing it, and tossing it vp and downe a good space, at the last he said: That the patient whose water that was, was full of bad humours, and had nede to be purg'd and let bloud; You Duns (answered the Vintner) it is good pisse, and with that dranke it cleane off, and when he had done, threw the Vrinall at the Doctors head.

A Bad Painter that neuer drewe good picture in all his life, found small thrift in his trade for want of vtterance of his rude shapes, and went to dwell in another place where he was not knowne, and there toke vpon him the practise of Physicke, and was the death of many a one: At last an acquaintance of his, comming to that towne, chanc'd to see him, and asking him what he made in a Physitions robe, and why he had giuen ouer his olde trade? Hee answered: Faith, I am now become as you see, to th'end the earth may bury all my ignorance and errors hereafter.

A N olde Gentlewoman was ouer-carefull of her sonnes health, who was not greatly diseased, and said to the Physition: I marueill (M. Doctor) that you chere vp my

ſonne no more, I pray you phiſicke him daintily that hee may be well againe and walke abroad: Whereunto the Doctor anſwered: Giue him then two Feather beds more.

A Delicate Gentleman being ſomewhat ſickiſh, ſent often for the Phyſition to come to him, and one morning he ſent for him purpoſely to come feele his pulſe: The Doctor came and felt it, and the Gentleman then ſaid vnto him: How ſay yée (maiſter Doctor) doth not my pulſe beat very ſoftly? Yes Sir, (anſwered the Doctor) He that rides on an Aſſe, muſt néedes go faire and ſoftly.

A Phyſition ſent for a Farrier to cure his Horſe of the Bots, and after he had done, the Doctor offered him two ſhillings, which the Smith refuſed, ſaying: We fellow craftſmen vſe not to take money of one another.

One ask'd a Phyſition what was the reaſon, that when one palſeth Doctor of Phyſicke, they put him on gilte ſpurres, and create him a Gentleman? He anſwered merrily: To war fare health.

A Seruingman carrying his Maiſters water, to Doctor Burket, it was his chance to ſpill it, and being in a maze what to doe, he eſpi'd a Cowe piſſing, to whome he ran preſently, and got ſome of her water, into his vrynall, and brought it to the Phyſition, who looking vpon it, ſaid: Sir tell your Maiſter he eateth to many grene ſallades.

The Spaniardes call the ſeauen ſtarres the 7. Goates: There was a Phyſicke Doctor in Salamanca, whoſe Father was a rich Countrey ſwaine, and lou'd Kids fleſh aboue any other meate; This ſwaine died, and this Doctor his ſonne comming to his funerall, his brothers requeſted him to tell them by his skill in Aſtrologie what was become of their Fathers ſoule? Forth then hee went in the Euening, and caſt his eye toward the ſeauen Goates, and finding the full number of thoſe Starres, hee ſigh'd, and ſaid: Déere bretheren ſo it is, that I feare me our Father is damned, for were hée aſcended into Heauen, out of doubt he had by the way deuoured ſome foure or fiue of yonder Goates (pointing to the Starres) ſo well he lou'd

lou'd Goates flesh in his life time (as yᵉ all knowe) But behold, ponder may you sée the full number of seauen still: Wherefore I greatly feare he is either discended into hell, or els is gone to heauen some far way about.

Doctor Parra a Spanish Phylition came to visit his Patient Don Garcia Manrique, the Duke of Nazareth his sonne: the Dukes Puliter being also sicke at the same time: They asking him what dyet they should giue them? Hee answered: Giue Don Garcia halfe a chicken, and the Puliter a pound and a halfe of Beefe.

A Gentleman saying to an vnlearned Phylition: Whether a wapes maister Horse leach, whether trudge you so fast? He answered, to cure your Worship.

One compared Phylitions to Hawkes, which if they kill but Partridges, are valued not aboue thirty crownes: If Duckes and Mallards at fifty: If Herons at two hundred. So Phylitions, if they kill but Clownes and Peasants, are not greatly esteemed: If Gentlemen or Knights, they are reasonable: But if they kill Lords or great States, then are they great Clearkes, and highly accompted of.

A Phylition being asked what might bee the reason of the stone and Stranguillion in men? Hee answered: Fye vpon false Millers that grynde with such grauellie Quearnes.

A Phylition comming to fele a Ladies pulse, and thinking to doe it mannerly, as though (forsoth) he were vnworthy to touch her, drew her smock sleeue ouer her wrest, and so felt it.

A Phylition riding ouer Shooters hill in Kent was afraid of Theeues, and by chance saw a farre off a troupe of people afore him. Whereupon he bid his man ride towards them, to discouer what they were: Meane time he hid himselfe close behinde a bush. The fellow comming vnto them, vnderstood that they conducted a murtherer to execution: Whereupon (being a mad knaue) he straight set spurres to the Horse, and galloped backe againe amaine toward his maister, still beckning vnto him all the way as he posted, to be gone, and shift for himselfe: Which the Doctor

perceiuing, away he flinges backe againe towards London, as though he had had a deuill at his taile: and being alighted at his Inne, he there attended his mans comming: Who eftsoones ariued, all panting, and blowing, said vnto him: Happy you (maister) that are so well escaped; Gogs nownes hee to be hang'd for killing onely one man: what would they haue done with you (I trowe) who haue slaine so many in your dayes?

OF IVSTICES, LAWYERS, *and Scriueners.*

A Fellon being condemned to die, said to the Iudge: I summon you to appeare within 30. dayes at the Tribunall of God, to answere the iustice you haue done me, and see you faile not hereof. The Iudge hereat smil'd, and said to one that stood by: I pray you appeare for me at that day, for (I assure you) I haue so much businesse now in hand, that I shall not be able to dispatch so soone.

A Presumptuous Fellon being brought to the bar, tolde the the Iudge he look'd like Pilate: Whereunto the Iudge answered, At least wise I will not wash my handes with Pilate to condemne so very a varlet as thou.

AN Abbot disclaiming before a Iustice of the temporall lawe, and saying hee was to be try'd by the Clergie, and not by the Layety: The Iustice straight willed his Mule to be seas'd vpon for the Plaintiffes debt, and then answered: At leastwise (Father) your Mule is of the Layety.

RONquillio a Spanish Iustice vsed to say: That it is good to hang a theefe of what age soeuer he be: A young theefe to th'end he may steale no more, and an olde theefe for his former thefts.

THe Marques of Santilliana commended Iustice, because it winnes good men to applaud it, & Clemency bad men.

In

IN a towne in the Low-countries a Spanish prisoner scap'd out of prison downe by a ladder, which was priuily conuay'd vnto him by a wench which bare him good will in that towne, & yet neuertheleſſe it was his hap to be taken againe: And being arraigned for the fact, it was euident that such his breach of prison was chiefely for the wenches sake: Whereupon Graue Maurice (ſitting then vpon the bench) merrily ſaid vnto him: Is it poſſible thou couldſt not get vp vpon her without a ladder? and ſo pardon'd him.

A Lawyer had walked much money about a ſtone building, which was ſo ill contriu'd, as euery man acompted his expence vaine. A Clyent of his came to him for his aduice in a matter of Law, and he being at that preſent in a chafe with his workemen, ſaid vnto him: You doe this and that, and I know not what, and all of your owne head, and then you blame the Lawyer for all: The Clyent hereunto anſwered: Sir my ouerſight in this caſe is but ſlight, but yours is of lime and ſtone.

ONe comming to a lawyer for his aduice in law without ere a fée; The Lawyer ſaid vnto him; How will you haue your Lampe burne, without Oyle?

CErtaine countrymen came to a Lawyer to know his opinion in this caſe, namely, whether if they and the whole parish, being able to proue that their Curate kept a wench, he might be depoſed from his Cure, & another put in his place. The Doctor then aſked them, wether the wench were of that parish or a ſtranger? They anſwered: a ſtranger of ſuch a place, and named where. Euen ſo (reply'd the Doctor) faith tell me then (ſirs) you knowing your Curate to be a man of ſuch a diſpoſition, doe you not thinke it more tollerable that he kéepe a Laſſe of a ſtrange place, rather then of your owne parish?

A Olde woman had a thée-Aſſe which ſhe loued paſſing well, becauſe both at Hill and at Market it had done her much good ſeruice a long time: This old woman dying, willed her Executors to let this Aſſe liue the remainder of her dayes in reſt and peace from all manner labour and paines, and all the day long to runne at paſture, and euery night

night to be allowed a pecke of Oates: This to continue during the naturall life of the said Asse. And to this effect, she bequeathed a portion of money to be disposed of from time to time for the Asse, and so died. Shortly after the Asse died also: then the olde womans sonne (who had a Colt of the aforesaid Asse) finding that the Asse at her death time had left a good quantitie of her allowance in Oates unspent, which he lawfully demanding of the executors, they denide to deliuer him: He thereupon came to a graue Doctor in law to haue his aduise in the case: Whereunto the Doctor in full notice of all the matter, thus resolu'd him. viz. That he might lawfully enter his action against the foresaid Executors for the Oates: Because both he himselfe was heire vnto his mother, as also his Colt (to whose vse he was chiefly to pretend it) was the other Asses naturall issue & heire apparant. This was the Law-Doctors sage opinion vpon this text, which he concluded, he would warrant for good law.

One telling an honest Gentleman that he doubted not but his friend would spæde well in the Law matter, hauing so good a purse, and so great friends. The Gent answered: If that be all your hope, the more is the pitty.

A Prayentice in the Lawe whose name was Berisforde hauing studied out his full time, and now standing to be cald to the bar, did vsually write for his poesie *Si non tamen*, Which another Lawyer seing, came and added to his *Si non* Barister, and to his *tamen*, Berisforde.

A Great Sergiant at the lawes, in this land being at supper with a Gentleman who had a *Nisi prius* to be tryed the next day, the Gentleman in discourse told him his case, and the Sergeant made it to be most cleere on the Gentlemans side, but when it came to hearing, this Sergeant was retaind against the Gentleman and the matter went clere against him: whereupon the Gentleman told the Sergeant, Sir you were not of this opinion yester night, Sir (said the Sergeant) I at my supper talke for my recreation, but in this place for my fee.

A Widdow Gentlewoman in King Henry the 7. dayes, gaue the Feasant for her cognizance, and one Cooke her

her aduersary Attorny in Law, said at the bar in disgrace of her cause, that he doubted not ere he had done, but he would throughly plume her Feasant, and make it a poore bird: the Gentlewoman answered: Then is it great pitty so faire a bird should fall into so foule a Cooks handling.

TWo Lawyers met the next day after the Tearme, and th'one said vnto th'other: I am sure you cary full bags downe with you into the country, hauing made so good a haruest of this Tearme: Not so (answered the other) rather doe I thinke you haue: For your bags (I dare say) are so top full of fees, that when you throw them downe vpon the boord, they make no sound at all as mine doe: Th'other reply'd, then belike I haue the ods of you in money, and you of me in musicke.

A Great Lawyer loosing his money at Cardes, was in a pelting chafe, and by chance a friend of his comming in and marueiling to see him so testie: The Lawyer said, I doe but canualle the errour of this action.

THe Emperour Charles at his first entrie into Toledo, toke an oath (according to the prerogatiue of that place) to preserue and secure vnto the Citizens all their auncient rites and priuiledges inuiolable: which after he had sworne, and that the townes publike Notarie had ingrolled it of record: The said Notarie then said vnto him, If your Maiestie please to performe what you haue heere sworne, God blesse you: If not, God incline your heart that you may, and blesse you neuertheless.

A Young Scriuener read a bill of sale to his maister, and the words went thus: Be it knowne vnto all men to whome this bill shall come or appertaine, that I, A B. of such a place, doe by these presents passe, graunt, giue, & make ouer vnto C D. of such a place, all my lands and possessions lying and being in such a place, for the summe of so much money already in hand receiued: And heereat he pausèd a while to spette: Whereat his surly Maister (halfe angry and teatly) said: On, on with a mischiefe: Then the fellow proceeded, and read: Namely, to you and your heires, and to all that shall or may hereafter issue from them, and

theirs to the worlds end.

A Scrivener was writing a Merchants last will & testament: In which the Merchant expressed many debts that were owing him, which he will'd his Executors to take up, and dispose to such and such uses. A kinsman of this Merchants then standing by, and hoping for some good thing to be bequeath'd him, long'd to heare some good newes to that effect, and said unto the Scrivener, hagh, hagh, what saith my uncle now? Doth he now make his Maundies? No (answered the Scrivener) he is yet in his demaunds.

The end of the second part of this booke.

Wits, Fits, and Fancies.

The third part.

OF LOVE AND LOVERS.

AN amorous Asse perfum'd his loue letter to his mistresse, and fearing least she should neglect how sweete it was, wrote in a post-script, underneath: I pray you (mistresse) after you haue read this letter, smell to it.

A Widow Gentlewoman hearing a young Noblemans discourse unto her of the mariageable loue he bare her daughter, and she obiecting that she was too meanly discended to be wife to so great a Lord as he: He answered: A more matter is loue then Lordship.

A Gentleman seeing a faire Gentlewoman at a window, he volted & carrabetted upon his horse a good space before her, & at last away he pranced: Anon after he came that way againe, and did as before, and so continued a good while: At last he departed for good and all, and being come home he sent her two bottles of Orenge water by his Page:

Which

Which the Gentlewoman accepting, ſaid vnto the Page: Now, I pray thee (my Lad) thanke thy maiſter, and tell him that I thought his euening winde would turne to water.

A Spaniard going to a female houſe in Antwerp, was demanded by a friend of his, whether he went? Who anſwered: To practiſe vpon a ſinner in th'act of charity.

Celeſtina is a dainty paſtorall loue-booke in Spaniſh, and it ſignifieth Celeſtiall; A Scholler comming to viſite his miſtreſſe, ſhe deſired him to helpe her to the ſaid Celeſtina: Who anſwered: Your ſelfe being the Originall, what would you doe with the tranſlation?

Fvente in Spaniſh ſignifies a Fountaine: Two Gentlemen came to viſite a Gentlewoman, whoſe Paramour was one Senior Fuente: They walking in the hall together, one of them ſaid: Lord what a freſh houſe is this, I haue not come in a freſher: Th'other anſwered: No meruaile, for it hath a Fuente in it: viz. a fountaine.

A Gent. had ſtolne a faire Maide away downe at a windowe, and a kinſwoman of his asked him how they had the harts to venture ſo dangerouſly? He anſwered: Our loues were ſo ardent, that had we not conuaid our ſelues out at the window for ayre, we had quite conſum'd one another.

A Gentlewoman went to Church ſo concealed, that ſhe thought no body could know her: It chanced that her Louer met her, and knewe her, and ſpake vnto her: Sir (ſhe anſwered) you miſtake me, how know ye me? All too well (reply'd the Gentleman) for ſo ſoone as I met you, beholde my wounds fell freſh a bleeding: Oh hereof you only are guilty.

One asked a Scholler how a man ought to demeane himſelfe in his firſt loues to his Miſtreſſe? He anſwered: Tell her once that you loue her, and then let the Deuill worke the reſt.

A Gent. ſaid vnto a Gentlewoman: Faire Miſtreſſe, long haue I lou'd you, and till now haue alwaies beene abaſht to declare you my loue: Alas good ſir (ſhe anſwered) in ſooth had you tolde mee your loue euen at the firſt, you had hazarded to loſe no more then you doe at this preſent.

A Gentleman boze certaine Gentlewomen in hand, how that by his skill in palmestry he could tell them all their foztunes: A Gentlewoman of the company, to whome hee was particularly denoted, then reacht forth her hand, to see what iudgement he would giue vpon it: Who after he had view'd it a good while, in the end said vnto her. In sooth all my foztune lyes in your hand.

A Ladie hauing many seruants, asked an olde Beldame how shee should vse them that she might still retaine them: And the Bawde answered: Use them Madam as you doe your smocks (hauing much change) change often: Yet weare you but one at once.

A Gentleman had beene a long time suter to a Gentlewoman, who still rewarded his loue but with scorne and disdaine: Neuertheless hee boze himselfe still a suter vnto her: And playing musicke on a time vnder her window, shee gaue him the hearing a while, and at last threw a wisp of straw at him in derision: Hee not greatly offended thereat, said: Of a bad pay maister better yet take straw then nothing.

A Young Gentleman being proffered a great mans daughter in mariage, deliberated many moneths vpon the matter. And being asked why hee so long delayed his content, answered: The affaire which is to be done but once foz euer, ought to be largely thought vpon.

A Gent. was a suter to a faire Gentlewoman, and coming in an afternoone to court her, he found her then at Cards with another Gent. whom he had in iealosie of a corriuall: And within a while she said: See, see (I pray) what bad cards he deals me: he answered: Lady receiue them not.

A Portugall wonted to say, that fine loue consists onely in talking, dauncing and feasting with faire Ladyes, the rest Asses can doe as well as men.

A Mayd was cheapening some what at a Habberdashers shop and as they were iesting together, shee asked him who was his mistresse: With that the Habberdasher toke downe a loking glasse, and held it before her, and said: Loe there may you see her, if you please.

Halfe

HAlfe a fole went a wooing, and by the way hee formed verie penſiue and full of muſes: Certaine his companions that met him and knew his errand, one of them ſaid vnto the reſt: Me thinkes (Sirres) Maiſter N. goes verie ſollemnly a wooing: Yee thinkes belike (anſwered another) what folerie to ſpeake firſt vnto his Miſtreſſe: Hée nede not doe ſo (addoyned the third) for in a kitchin well furniſh'd, ſupper is ſone furniſh'd.

A Maid of fifty yeares ſtanding was proffer'd to a young Gentleman in mariage, with a great portion, and beſides that ſhe was ſo olde, ſhee was withall vll fauoured. Moreouer it was his good hap vpon a time to haue a ſight of her bare leg; as ſhe alighted off her Horſe, and hée ſaw that it was nothing but skin and bone, and as yellow as a Kytes foote. At the very ſame time was alſo proffered him a very faire young Maide in mariage of an eight and nine yeares olde, but her portion ſlender and ſmall: Neuertheleſſe this young Gallant choſe her, and refuſed the other: And being demaunded why he did ſo: hée anſwered: I view'd the figure below, and ſawe that there remained good 18.

A Faire Gentlewoman caught a flea vpon the belly part of her kertle, and ſaid: Why how now Flea? What, Fleas ſo bolde in winter? Her ſuter then ſtanding by anſwered: It is all ſummer tiere alwaies.

ONe asked an ill fauour'd widdow why ſhée did not marrie? ſhe anſwered: Becauſe if any marrie mee, it will be rather for my goods, then for my owne ſake, and then will he be to me not a kinde husband, but onely as a friend, or a well willer.

A Widdow Gentlewoman who had buried her very kind husband, being perſwaded to marrie againe, ſhee anſwered: The death of a deare husband ought not to diſannull the loue of a chaſte wife.

A Sharp dame in diſdaine of her ſuter, ſent him this meſſage: Whoere ſhall be my husband, muſt haue theſe foure Oſes. viz. Hee muſt be ſage, ſole, ſecrete, ſolations: Whereunto her ſuter returned her this anſwer againe: And who euer ſhall be my wife, muſt be none of theſe foure

Cæs. viz. Common crooked, curst, careless.

A Reuerend Licentiate at lawe was a suter to a faire Gentlewoman, and shee scorning him, still returned him tart and squeamish quippes: Whereupon a time he said vnto her: Gentlewoman, you greatly forget your selfe to iniure me so highly, considering both my honest loue towardes you, as also my grauity, who am (as you know) a Licentiat in Law. Whereunto she answered. Hauing lost the game, plead you now forbearings.

A Gentleman comming to visite his friend sore lonesicke a bed, and desiring to know his so cruell mistresse: He answered: Oh (Sir) Bereft of blisse a Beldame caused this.

A Young Gentleman viewing ouer-curiously a Marchants faire wife, by chance a vertuous kinsman of his came by, and noting it, said vnto him: That which cannot be lawfully coueted, ought not to be curiously regarded.

OF HVSBANDS AND WIVING.

A Spright appeard to one by night, and miserably amazed him: Yet in the end being somewhat reuiu'd from feare, he thus bespake it: If thou be God or any of his good Angells, I know thou wilt not hurt me: And if thou be the Deuill or his Dame, I likewise hope no lesse, because I haue marryed thy sister: Meaning his shrewd wife.

A Seruingman was a suter to a maides dishonestly, who asked him, whether he meant to marrie her yea, or no: He answered: No, For that better could he affoord her shetes, then ruffes.

A Faire young wife asking her vnkinde kind-husband the cause of his iealousie: He answered: Faith (wife) not in respect that I any whit distrust thy true and loyall loue towards me, but because I see all the world ouer-loueth ther:

thee: So that though I dare trust thee with all the world, as being my most true turtle doue; yet dare I not trust all the world with thee, because thou art all too faire, and men ouer-loue thee.

The Earle of Orgas was woont to say, that who so subiecteth himselfe to his wiues supremacy, doth all one as if he fed with his feete, and march'd on his hands.

A Duke being highly offended with his slaue, would haue hang'd him, but at last aduising vpon a worser torment (as he thought) said: No, hanging is all too easie a death, I'le marie him to a whore.

One asked an acquaintance of his, whether he were yet a married man or no: he answered: What, an Ape clogg'd vp in a chimney corner? Faith no.

In a plague time a Constable passing by his neighbours house, and hearing his wife sore lamming him, that night he set vp a red crosse vpon his doore, whereat the neighbour the next morning highly offended, tore it downe, and complained to the Alderman of the ward of the high iniury the Constable had therein done him: who being presently sent for, thus he answered the matter: And like your Worship, his wife sore beate him yesterday, and I thinke there cannot be a greater plague in a house then that, and therefore I did it.

A Musition singing vnder a Gentlemans windowe, The faire wife proou'd a shrewe, &c. The Gentleman straight arose from out his bed, and looking out at the windowe, said vnto him: The faire wife you speake of, well may you goe seeke her else where, for here she is not: but as for the shrew, she is here a bed with me.

One Antonio Siluio a Venetian Gentleman, was the first that ere inuented the locke: Ala more de fica for a womans counting house, and being by one of his friends demaunded the reason of his crueltie to locke vp his wiues thing: answered, haue you euer knowne a treasurie without a locke.

A old Gentleman had prouided a wife for the wilfull his sonne, to whome he gaue in great charge, during the

the bridall time not to speake any one word for feare the Brides friends should happily discouer his folery: So all dinner time there sate the wise Gentleman silly silent (God knowes) not forgetting to vse his chappes more then his tong: At last the Brides friends perceiuing such his foolish silence, whispered his disgrace in one anothers eare, and sore beflouted him. Amongst the rest, one of them said to his next commensall: Questionlesse the Bridegroome is a iolly wise young Gentleman, see how sollemnly he sits, and I warrant you he thinkes vpon some waighty matter: He ouer-hearing this, loudly said vnto his father there present: Sir, well may I now be bold to speake, for that (I see) they haue now discouered me.

One aduis'd his friend to chuse his wife rather with his eares, then with his eyes.

A Maid was proffered to one in marriage, and her friends were offended that the party so long paus'd vpon the choise; Whereunto he answered: Is she foule? then is she odious: If faire? then is she hard to keepe: These be the extreames I muse vpon.

One wonted to say, that to a peaceable life in mariage it were meete the husband were deafe, and the wife blinde.

A Faire woman take an ill-fac'd man to husband, & her beauty still more and more increased: A pleasant Gent. noting it, said: That he neuer in all his life saw an Apple in a Cowshare continue so long vnrotted.

One vs'd to say, that the best choyse of a wife is by Arithmeticke.

A Man of worship maried a poore mans daughter, and certaine of his friends questioning with his brother what portion her friends gaue with her? he answered: To fall with bread and water.

A Bridegroome said vnto his spouse: When as at such a time I sollicited thy chastity, hadst thou then condiscended, I should neuer had lou'd thee after, neither had wee beene now man and wife, for I did it purposely to trie thee: She answered, Faith I thought as much, but such a one taught

taught me more wit then so, seauen yeares agoe.

A Shrewd wife chid her husband out of doores, and he stepping foorth into the street, stumbled with his Nose into the Kennell, and at rising vp againe, he said: Better here yet then within doores.

A Man had a shrewd wife, and he one day broke her head, the cure wherof cost him deere expence afterward: Insomuch that his wife in regarde thereof, said on a time vnto her Gossips: Faith my husband will not dare giue me no more broken heads in hast, considering how deare he findes them in the cure. Her husband hearing of such her braues, sent the next day for the Surgeons and Apothecaries, and in her presence paid them all their bils, and gaue ech of them twenty shillings ouer and aboue saying: Hold this (Sirs) against the next time.

One vs'd to say, that the father giues the portion, but God the good wife.

TWo young men were suters to a rich mans daughter, the one was rich, th'other poore, and he bestow'd her vpon the poore suter: Being demaunded why he did so, he answered: Because the poore batcheller is wise, and may repaire his lining in time, but th'other a fole, and like to bring all to nought.

One wonted to say, that the greatest pleasure a married man can haue, is the hope he hath to burie his wife shortly, whereby to become a new suter to another.

A Great personage but olde withall, married a faire yong maid in a manner perforce, & against her friends good willes: Wherupon one merrily descanted and said: That he married her perforce, and she him sans force:

IN Spaine it is lawfull to marrie by Attorney. One besought his deare friend to marrie a faire maide in his absence to his vse, affirming that they were already priuilie contracted before witnesse: his friend (with Licence of the Church first obtained) did so: And after the marriage ended, he and the Bride sate downe together in a pew: And he spake neuer a word vnto her: which the neighbours marueiling at, asked him why he was so strange to the Bride?

he answered: Well haue I leaue to wed her for my friend, but not to speake the first follie vnto her: That's his right, and he must haue it.

A Louing wife said vnto her husband as she lay a dying: Déere husband, you that are voyde of all sinne, I beseech you pray for me.

One asked a young Gentleman, what he meant to marry so deafe a Gentlewoman? he answered: Because I hop'd she was also dumbe.

One enueighing against such as chuse their wiues chiefly for beautye, said: That such manner of wiues after the first fiue moneths, are foule to their husbands, and faire to all other men.

If one that had maried a foule woman with a rich portion, another said: that he toke her merely by waight, without fashion.

One Ducket a fat marchant was held among his neighbours vnable in generation, and his fine wife being on a time in conuersation among her gossips, and talking of big husbands, she said: And I for my part (thankes be to God) haue Ducket ynough (as you all knowe) and yet I assure yée, he is too light by two graines.

One asking his neighbour how olde his wife was? he answered: Her marke is not yet out.

One woonted to say: If your wife bid you throw your selfe out at a windowe, pray God that it be not farre to the ground.

A Gardiner being to be hang'd, his wife came to giue him her last kisse at the gallowes: to whom he said, Fie on thée (baggage) thus are we like to thriue well at the yeares end: there cannot be a meeting in all the countrey, but still thou wilt be sure to make one: Home and wéed, home and wéed with a very vengeance.

The Admirall of Castile said: that who so takes a wife, is like a Souldiour that goes to the warres, to oppose himselfe against all encounters.

One hearing a curst husband threatening his shrewd wife: that vnlesse she held her tongue he would beat her

with

with his dagger, ſaid vnto him: If you beate her with the dagger, ſhe'll beat you with the ſcabberd.

OF WOMEN.

One demaunded of a Phyſition, why men ſtill ſue to women, and women neuer to men? He anſwered: Becauſe women are alwaies ready for men, and men not alwaies for women.

One asked a Gentlewoman, why other females for the moſt part reſiſt the male in generation, and onely women moſt gently yelde vnto it? She anſwered: Becauſe women are no beaſts.

A Gentlewoman greatly importuning a plaine Countryman to deliuer his opinion what ſeaſons he thought a woman fitteſt for a man: In th'end (after many curteſies and much a doe) he anſwered: In ſoth (Miſtreſſe) whenſoeuer a man is ready for a woman.

A Vnciuill Captaine wonted to ſay that he loued a woman and his chamber-pot alike, neither of both but for his eaſe.

A Payden came to an olde Grocer to buy ſome virgin-wax: The Grocer at that inſtant was pounding ſpice in a morter, then thus hee anſwered: Holde here (faire maid) this peſtill if you pleaſe: But as for virgin wax, the Deuill a whit haue I had this many a day.

A Gentleman comming to a marchants houſe, the Dog flue at him at the doore, and he with his dagger ſmit off his taile: The good wife hereat was teſtie, and miſuſed the Gentleman in tearmes, whereupon he ſaid: Why woman it is not a dogges taile can ſerue your turne.

A Gentlewoman being demanded whether ſhee loued her ſons, or her daughters beſt: ſhe anſwered, her daughters A Gentleman that ſtood by then, ſaid: Me thinkes, God hauing made you a Carrier, you ſhould loue a pack-needle well.

A Woman in her anger said, what (I pray yée) doe you doubt of my honestie? No (answered the other) for it neuer stood in my way.

A Maide had swallowed a dramme too much, not knowing she was with childe, but felt a paine in her bellie, and carried her water to a Phylition, complaining to him of the griefe; Who answered, Bee of good chéere (wench) for I'le warrant thee within these fewe monethes you shall haue the cause of your paine in your armes.

A Gentleman séeing a Gentlewoman garter her stockins in the stréete, said Gentlewoman you haue a good leg, Sir (said she) I haue two: Then said he be they twinnes? not so (said she) for there was a man borne betweene.

A Gentleman hauing choise of 2. sisters, which he would make his wife, séeing the one to be passing faire, the other inclining to a little blacknes, fell in loue with the faire one, whil'st the black one fell also in loue with him: So that on a day the Gentleman being toying and kissing, with his faire Mistresse, at which the blacke wench much grieued, she tooke her Diamond from her finger, and writ in a glasse window. *Te tam formosam non pudet esse leuem*: The faire wench séeing her sister, writing and knowing her iealosie, ranne to the window and read the verse: Whereupon instantlie she tooke another Diamond, and writ underneath: *Te non formosam non inuat esse leuem.*

A Gentlewoman hearing a Gentleman (whom the world helde to be passing vnthriftie and full of waste vices) talking both foolish and prophainely, she said, how much is the world deceiu'd in you, that reputes you an vnthrifte, when I sée you are a most excellent husband? For you will neuer spend your wit, and your woordes at one instant.

A Vnchaste woman of life was commending a mans honestly to his face in honest company: Hee disdaining such her praise, as proceeding from a woman of her infamy, said: I hope I was neuer dishonest with you, that you should thus commend me before all this good companie.

KIng Edward the fourth was wont to say, that a womans greatest difficulty is, to hold her peace.

A Gentleman

A Gentleman requested a thing of an vnchast Gentlewoman: and she answered: Faith sir no, had I a hundred thinges, you should not haue one of them: Say you so (reply'd the Gentleman) I know the time when hauing but one onely thing, you let a hundred go by it.

AN incontinent Bride thinking her marriage day ouer long, and longing for night, saide vnto her gossips. Now, would God it were euen now night, or els that I were vnmarried againe.

A Chollericke person and a woman were a chiding together, and by chance an acquaintance of his came by: Who said vnto him: Lord, what ayle yée to chide so with that woman, I know her of olde, shée is to hard a match for you: He answered: Then a Gods name, let her chide with Saint Peter, S. Martin, Bristoll, Yorke, London, and not with me.

ONe vsed to say: Who so hath a daughter but twentie yeares olde, well may he bestow her vpon her better, if 25. vpon her equall, if aboue 25. then vpon whosoeuer list to haue her.

A Rich man had a daughter aboue 30. yeares olde, who found herselfe greatly agréeued that he had not all that while prouided her a husband. Vpon a time he inuited to dinner to him his fiue sonnes, who were all marryed in the same towne: Now this stale maide, their sister, then hop'd that such their méeting was purposely to determine vpon a good husband for her, but it fell out otherwise: For after that dinner was done, the Father said thus vnto them: (Sonnes) I haue bid you all to dinner to day, to th'end that euery of you resolue me, whers you mean to be buried when you die, or whether you thinke it not best, that I builde a tombe for vs all together: Now let me heare your good aduises in this behalfe: Then the eldest sonne said: For my part (Father) I desire to be buried in the parish Church where I chance to dye, and so the rest in a rowe all as they thought good. At last when they had all saide, the Father turn'd him about to his daughter, and asked her where shee would be buried: Shée answered: Faith no where (Father)

for I am like to die deſperate, and for ſuch as die ſo, well you wot, the Church allowes them no buriall at all.

A Young Gentlewoman that went for a virgin, and was none, being childe-ſtone, the Phyſition aſk'd her where her greateſt griefe lay: ſhee anſwered: Me thinkes I faile my heart bounce againſt my belly.

A Merrie Water-man ſaid vnto a Gentlewoman as hée ferried her ouer the water; My boat (Miſtreſſe) hath a leake iuſt whereas you ſit, yet feare not a Gods name, for there's no amiſſe, but may be amended.

One in wrangle with a woman gaue her the lye: Another that ſtood by them anſwered: Why, women are beſt when they lye.

One enticing another mans wife to vnlawfull luſt: ſhée ſaid: All the while I was a maid I obay'd my parents, and nowe that I am a wife I obey my husband: Wherefore if your requeſt be honeſt and reaſonable, goe moue it to my husband.

A Fair Gentlewoman was married away by her friends to an ill fac'd and a crooked perſon: And a kinſ-woman of hers comming to comfort her on a time, ſhe ſaid: As for friends (couſen) it is méete that they be gallant Gentlemen, but as for Husbands, we muſt take them as we finde them.

A Notable lew'd Gentleman ſaying to a Gentlewoman that he lou'd her as his ſoule: Shée anſwered, I had rather you ſaid, you lou'd me as your body.

A Gentleman being booted and ſpur'd ready to take horſe, came to take his leaue of his miſtreſſe, who anſwered: Well may you aske mee leaue for the next time, for at this time you haue taken it of your ſelfe.

A Great widdow Countеſſe in England hauing had two husbands, and being aſk'd why ſhe would not haue the third: anſwered: That the firſt mariage was honorable, the ſecond tollerable, but the third abhominable.

A Theban Lady hauing ſlaine one of Alexanders beſt ſouldiours, was adiudg'd to die, both her and her whole familie, whereupon firſt was executed before her face, her children, at which ſhe ſeemed not to be mooued, in the end

came

came her deare companion Campaspe to dye, whose death when she sawe, she fell into an infinite passion of teares, and acclamation: at which Alexander ask'd her why with such patience she tooke the death of her children, and with such griefe the death of a stranger? she answered: that the death of her children had made an intire impostume of her whole body. so that no passage was able to vtter it, till the pittie for her friend came and launc'st it, making it ouerflowe in such immeasurable fashion.

ONe asking Ausonius whether there might be a good woman for no? he answered yes, when an euill thing is made good.

A Gentlewoman in extreamitie of labour, sware that if it pleas'd God she might escape death for that once, she would neuer in all her life after hazard her selfe to the like daunger againe; but being at last safely deliuered, she then said to one of the midwiues: So, now put out the holy candle, and kepe it till the next time.

A Gentleman taking his leaue of his mistresse, said: I kisse your hands and your fete: She answered, Forget not (I pray) the station betweene.

ONe saying to a woman, Vpon my soule doe this: She answered: Stake downe some other pawne, for that's forfeited already.

A Nolde Gentlewoman sent her daughter in lata a bore of preserues, who talking thereof said: Lord, how sowre is this Sugre: So said, in reference belike that it came from a mother in law.

TWo corriualls to a Maids dishonestie, drew and fought vnder the windowe: and she looking out said: Sirres, you mistake, your quarrell is not to be ended with steele, but with golde and siluer.

A Lasciuious dame conuersing among her Gossips, alluded thus cunningly to her husbands ingenerationesse, saying: In sooth my husband (thankes be to God) hath many good parts in him, he is a good Musition, he writes well, and he can cast an accompt no man better, saue only that he cannot multiplie.

An

AN old woman seeing the Bride her daughter vnarray her selfe fearelly to bedward, as who would say: Lord, is this the last houre of my mayden-head? She said vnto her: Faith (Daughter) and if it pleas'd God, would I were to abide all thy paines to night.

A Gentleman saying to a young Gentlewoman, who had beene fiue yeares a wife, and neuer had any childe: I greatly maruell that your belly reares not: She answered: How, would you haue aire puffe vp my belly, hauing none in my head: She taxed herein her husbands insufficiencie.

ONe asking another what was the reason that such a Gentlewoman being but a poore widdow had so many faire maids in her seruice? th'other answered: Because she affordes them free scope, as Hanniball did to his Souldiours at Capna.

A Gentlewoman disdaining her suter, said vnto him: A woman of my calling to loue so base a Groome as your Mastership, Faith sir no: He answered, Yes, the rather for my basenesse, for that women are shee-Woolues, that commonly prey vpon the basest carrion.

ONe being asked why he enueighed so sore against women kinde, considering that so many good Authors haue from time to time whole-vollumed their praises? He answered: They wrote what women ought to be, but I say what they are.

PEdro Mexia woonted to say, that a woman is the heauen of mans eye, the Hell of his soule, and the Purgatorie of his purse.

TH'Earle of Vrenia woonted to say, that the vertuous life of a widdow bridles the wicked tongue to silence, and spurres the vertuous to commend her.

A Widdow ouer liued her two husbands, whereof the first died rich, and left her full bagges, and yet withall vs'd her but hardly in his life time: th'other spent all and left her poore, yet whiles he liued vs'd her very well and kindely: these two being both buried in one Church, and neere one another, she one day standing betweene both their graues,

graues, said vnto certaine her gossips there; See ye heere these two graues? Heere in this graue lyeth full bagges, and there lies spend-all: now the deu'll take them both.

A kinde wife followed her husband to the gallowes, and he requesting her not to trouble her selfe any farther, she answered: Ah yes (deare Husband) now that I haue brought you thus farre on your way, faith Il'e see you hang'd too, God willing.

A Gentleman comming to visit a young Maid, found her a working her wedding-smock-coate, and he ask'd her when she would haue done it, She answered, quickly: and then sighingly adioyn'd, Ah! heerein I am to loose my maiden-head.

Two gossips chatting late in an euening by the fires side, at last one of them said vnto her maide: Nanne, light a candle, and with that fetch'd a great sigh: and added, For well I wot, thy olde maister lou'd light aboue any earthly toy, and Now I pray God the light of heauen faire befall him: Whereunto th'other gossip answered: And I for my part (Gossip) had a husband that aboue all things lou'd a good fire well, now hell fire light on him.

The Earle of Vrenia vsed to say, that a womans greatest Jayle is modestie, and silence.

Two shrewes being at ciuill brabble about one anothers honestie, th'one of them said: I faith thou sauo'st of honestie, euen as a Cow doth of Aqua vitæ: Th'other answered: And the honestie of thee, and the woolle of an olde dogge would make a good Cuckold medlie.

One commending a proper woman who was an errand shrew, and withall very talkatiue, said: She is euen as gallant a woman as euer I set eye on, all but her tongue.

A Preacher in his good-friday sermon said vnto his parishioners: Sirs, who of you all will not in honour of this day forgiue his enemie with all his heart? With that a woman stept forth and said, Sir I doe: whome (said the Preacher:) Marie whosoeuer (quoth she) wil doe so much as kill the knaue my husband.

OF CVCKOLDS.

A Cuckold innocent being informed that such a one was a bed with his wife, answered: Knowing him as I doe to be a right honest man, I dare aduenture my wife a bed with him.

A honest man that had but one eie and a queane to his wife, entring vpon the sudden into his bedchamber by night, a knaue chanced to be then a bed with her, who hearing her husbands voice, shifted him suddenly behinde the doore, & thus she said vnto her Goodman: what husband, is't you? euen welcome my good husband: I hope in God my dreame is come to passe: I was euen now adreamed that you could see with either of your eyes, in so much as I waked for ioy, and I hope to finde it true: And with that she arose from out her bed, and comming toward him: Good husband ((she said) let me lay my finger on your seeing eie, & then tell me whether dou discerne any thing with the other? He answered: No, not any thing. In this meane time she beckned to the Adulterer to be gone: who straight slipped from behinde the doore downe the staires, and so scap'd quite away.

One went a wooing, and by the way hee heard the Cuckoe sing. Whereupon he turn'd backe againe, and sware that by the Masse he would prooue him a lyer.

One saluted his neighbour, and he refusing to resalute him, th'other said: So God me helpe, I see there is a kinde of people in the world, that dare not do'ffe their hattes for discouering their hornes.

A Gentleman whom the world strongly supposed to be a Cuckold, hauing occasion amongst other Gentlemen to talke of the duties of seruants: said *Dominum cognoscite vestrum*, I pray you sir said one of the Gentlemen how doth that verse begin? why reply'd he *Asteon ego sum*.

A Coun-

A Countryman came to aske for a Gentleman in a place where were many other Gent. besides, and it was his chaunce to aske the Gentleman himselfe: Who answered: By good friend, hee that you aske for, was hang'd many a day agoe; And wherefore I pray you sir (reply'd the stranger:) Marie (hee answered) for a robberie: A robberie (quoth the stranger) Oh th'ungratious man, was he not content to be a Cuckold all his life, but hee would also proue himselfe a theefe in the end?

A Poore countrey-man came from market, and brought a sheepes head home with him, hornes and all. His wife seeing it, said: Why how now (husband) what a head like your owne?

A Spanish Cuckold was condemn'd to be whipt by his wife at a Carts-taile, condition, that if she forbore to doe it in good earnest, she then to be whipt her selfe. So marching along in the streete he after the cart, and she with rods after him, he often times turn'd backe to her, and said: Kate, good Kate, lay thou on load on mee, and let not them lay it on thee.

ONe saying merrily to his neighbour: Is your wife an honest woman (trowe ye?) he answered: I cannot easily resolue you that question, for well may a womans dishonestie be knowne by experience, but not her honestly.

A Man being to be marked in the forehead for hauing three wiues at once: A Gent. that stood by, and knewe the lenitie of his first and lawfull wife, said: As well deserues he a forehead marke for his first wife, as for th'other two.

A Faire Gentlewoman danc'd her galliard passing well, and a Gentleman highly commended her good grace therein: The sole her husband standing by, was proud to heare his wife so praised: and adioyned, Oh but (Gentleman) if you knew her a bed as I doe, you would say she were euen the sweetest woman in the world.

AN English-man ask'd a French-man what was french for a Cuckold? Who answeare (*Cocqu.*) Why then I pray (quoth the English man) is this true French to say *Monsier vous estes Cocque.* The French-man finding

himselfe touch'd, answered: Yea (sir) it is true French in the plurall number, but not in the singular.

A Cuckold telling a Gentleman that he knew an Italian who made a 160. pounds a yeare of a Civit cat which his father left him, and affirming that it were good, if every younger brother in England were so well prouided for: The Gentleman answered: I doubt not but your wife yeldes you twise as much every yeare.

A Cuckold seeing out at a windowe his wife and another in lasconious embraces: And hearing her protest how dearely she loued him aboue all the men in the world: He said aloud vnto him, beleeue her not (friend) beleeue her not: For (I assure you) she hath tolde me as much a thousand, and a thousand times, and yet haue I still found her false.

OF BASTERDS.

THe Arch-bishop of Saragosa and another Gentleman who were both base borne, walked together in a field, and meeting with a Countrey man, the Gentleman pointed hornes at him with his two fingers, saying: How saist thou (friend) are they euen or odde? he answered: No oddes (sir) but euen a paire of Bastards.

A Bastard was a telling his friend that he was as much beholding to such a one as to his owne father: Why (said th'other) can you possibly be beholding to any so much as to your owne father? he answered: You haue reason: Yes (reply'd th'other) you are more beholding to your mother, that chose you such a father, then to your father that chose you such a mother.

One making his Bastard-sonne his heire: The true begotten sonne being vnthriftie, it happened the two Brothers falling out, the true begotten twitted the bastard that he came in at the windowe: True said the Bastard, I came in at the window to keepe the house, whilst you might walke out of the doores to beg for the house.

An

AN olde and a young Gentleman being at tearmes of enmitie, the young Gallant said: Bethinke thy selfe well, and thou shalt finde that thou art a base grome to me, and that we are not fellowes by oddes: True (answered the olde Gentleman) for indeed I very well remember, your father and I were fellowes and bedfellowes too, not passing nine moneths before you were borne. He spake it in reference that the world thought he had sometimes knowne the others mother carnally.

A Young Bastard throwing stones among a multitude of people: one said vnto him: Ware (boy) thou hit not thy father.

OF TABLE MATTER.

A Nhonest man inuited a Physition to dinner, and at dinner time drunke to him in a cup of wine; Whereunto the Physition excepted, and said: That he durst not pledge him in wine for feare of pimples, and inflamations in his face: The other answered, A foule pil on that face, that makes the whole body fare the worse.

AN Italian vsed to say, that wine hath these two discommodities with it: If you put water into it, you marre it, and if you put none in, you marre your selfe.

THe Dutch man vseth to say, that eating is not any whit necessarie, other then in as much as it procureth a man to drinke and talke.

A Sudden silence being at a table, where sate a many at dinner: one of the company said, Why how now (my Maisters) it seemes that some of vs at this bord, sitte with their legges a cresse: A Gentlewoman thereunto excepted, and said: Not I in sooth, for I haue her somewhat betweene my legges: She meant the tressell of the table, but it was not so taken.

TO one that ſipp'd his wine, another ſaid: Me thinkes you eate your wine, and all to bemangle it: True (anſwered the other) I doe it to gaine the quintelſcence out of it.

A Friend of Don Alonſo de Aguilar being at dinner with him, call'd for a little wine: Whereupon Don Alonſo tolde him: In this houſe (Sir) neither a little is to be demanded, nor a little to be giuen.

A Turkie-pie had béene often ſeru'd in to a poore Gentlemans boord, and at laſt a Seruing-man being to ſerue it in againe, made ſome ſtay of it by the way, reſting it vpon the buttry hatch. By chance his maiſter came by: and ſéeing it there, asked him, why he die not carrie it in? Marie Sir, (anſwered the ſeruingman) I thought it could by this time haue found the way in alone.

ON a Chriſtmaſſe time the Countrymen came in thicke and threefold to a worſhipfull mans houſe, and fell hungerlie to their victuals: And one of them riſing vp with a full belly, ſaid: Sirs, God bleſſe you all, and the Founder: The Gentlemans Steward then ſtanding by, anſwered: and the Confounders too.

A Seruingman by miſchance ſhed broath on his maiſters boord, and his maiſter ſaid: Sirra, I could haue done ſo my ſelfe: he anſwered: No marueil (Sir) for your worſhip hath ſéene me doe it firſt.

AN olde Doctor complaining how that hauing but one onely tooth left him in his head, it was lately fallen away with eating a very ripe figge: another anſwered, But your tooth was a great deale riper.

A Phyſition willed an Italian Souldiour to forbeare wine after figges: Who anſwered. Tut (Maiſter) Doctor) you miſtake: It is wine after figges, and a figge for water.

A Doctor of phyſicke wore his ſléeues ſhort, and verie wide: And dining on a time at a Noble-mans boord, he wared liquorish of a Cranes legge, which for that it was far from his reach, he thought it better manners, to take the whole Crane out of the diſh, and carue himſelfe at leaſure

sure vpon his trencher, then to stretch out his arme so farre, whereby to discouer vnto that honorable companie all his naked wrist: And he did so. A seruingman then seing the empty dish, tooke it from the bord: At last the Doctor hauing shar'd out his morsell, look'd about for it, and missing it, threwe the Crane vnder the boord, saying: Goe seeke it out.

AVonamar a Moore king, commended water for two good properties that it hath, viz. It neither inebriateth nor inebrunkenneth a man.

ONe drunke a cup of very small wine, and said: Why how now water, shall I call thee wine?

A Gentleman vsing to dine often with the Maior of London, on a time brought his friend with him, saying My Lord heere I am come a bolde guest of yours againe, and haue brought my shadow with me: The Maior welcom'd him and his shadow: within a while after he came againe to dinner to him, and brought two companions with him: To whom the Maior said, Sir, you be hartily welcome: But I pray you tell me, Doe you not thinke it a monstrous thing, one body to haue two shadowes?

OLd Maister Palmer of Agmerine was a pleasant Gentleman, and being one day at dinner with the Duke of Sommerset, no sooner was a dainty morsell of meate caru'd him, but straight the seruingmen were ready for cleane trenchers to receaue it from him: At last a Lady caru'd him a Partridge wing, and a seruing man forthwith cleane trencherd him, and went cleane away with it: Which the merrie Gentleman perceiuing, said aloud vnto all the honorable company: A faire flight (Sirs) marke, marke it well: oh the faire flight.

AT a summers banquet of fruits and swete meates, a young gentleman placed himselfe nert to an old man, who had scarse ere a tooth in his head: But yet the olde man out-eat him: Whereupon the merrie youth at rising, thus beiested him saying: Wasse (father) of one that is no better shod, than I see you are, you haue runne very well to day.

One

One came to visit a Gentleman and he found him eating of cherries with a paire of spectacles on his nose, whereat he greatly marvelled, and said: Sir, I wonder, considering you are so good of sight, that you eate your cherries with spectacles? He answered, The truth is, I bidde my man buy me great Kentish Cherries, and he hath brought me these little ones, as you see, wherefore I eate them thus with spectacles to make them seeme great ones, and that's as good.

Grapes were set before one at the beginning of dinner, and he said: It is not good building upon a round foundation.

A Doctor of physicke was telling one how wholesome it is to breake ones fast all the dog-day mornings: and one asked him when the dog-dayes beginne, and how long they continue? He answered: Marrie, they begin (according to Plinie) alwayes fifteene dayes before the Callends of August, that is the 17. of Julie, and continue till the 17. of September. One that stood by, then said: In sooth (maister Doctor) I have often heard it, even as you say, that Dog-day breakefasts are indeede very wholesome, but truly I alwaies thought that those dayes began evermore the first of Januarie, and ended not till the last of December.

In Spaine Butter is daintie: and being serud in on a time to a Noblemans boord, a Gentleman at the lower end tooke exceptions for that they had none there: Whereunto his next commensall answered: Belike my Lords steward thinkes we have no bowles to greaze.

An Earle came late within night to a Gentlemans house, and a fatte Capon was seru'd up to his supper, which th'Earle seeing, straight tinn'd the dish with his knife to have it set nere him: Whereupon the Gentleman then standing by, said: Your honour doth well to take it, for it is a Trump at this time.

A Poore Gentleman invited a cupple of Friers to dinner to him, and their cheere was only egges. The Gentleman would faine have excus'd the matter unto them: but one

one of them perceiuing his drift, said, why (sir) egges are very good fare, and many good dishes may be made of egges: Say you so father (reply'd the Gent.) holde yée héere then each of you a couple of egges, dresse them after your owne manner.

Two Gent. came to breake their fast in a Tauerne, & a Bag piper stood piping at the doore: At last in came one and set them downe a couple of egges, whereat one of the Gent. excepted, and said: Hath all this cackling béene but for these two poore egges?

A Man of worship had on the sodaine great resort of guests, & their fare was but slender: Whereupon he called his steward vnto him and said: Why how chanceth it N. that we haue no better fare to day? this dinner is like an apple, soone snatch'd vp vpon the poynt of a Rapier.

A Gent. and a Gentlewoman supping in one roome at two seuerall boords, whereat were a many strangers besides, the Gentlewoman waxing teasty and foolish at some speach of his, began to misuse him vnciuilly in tearmes before all the company: Whereupon the Gent. said: Some good body take away the Sallade from the Gentlewoman. What Sallade goodman Asse (said she?) he reply'd, your sallade of Nettles.

One vs'd to say, that it is good to talke of warres, but not be in warres, to talke of the Sea, but not be at sea, to talke of hunting, but rather to taste thereof.

One wonted to say, that poore men want meate to their stomacks, and rich men stomackes to their meate.

A Rude Gentlewoman had stuft her pottage so thick with bread that somewhat fell beside the dish: One séeing it, said, Gentlewoman you spill: No, (answered another) well may it fall beside, but it cannot spill.

One being caru'd the rumpe of Mutton, he refused it, saying: I brooke no couers of close stooles.

One was telling a Gentlewoman how such a Gallant of the Court eat euery day eight Capons in blanck-manger: She answered: Oh the Fore.

AT a Noblemans banquet a ship of Marchpane-stuffe was set vpon the boord, wherein was all manner of Fishes in the like stuffe: Euery one snatching thereat: A Sea-Captaine sitting far off could not reach thereunto, but one of the company gaue him a spratte, which he receiuing, held it a good space to his eare: The Nobleman seeing it, asked him his conceit thereof: Yee then in reference to the little portion that came to him out of that Marchpane, thus merrily answered; And like your Grace, my father before me (as your honour knowes) was sometimes a Sea-Captaine, and it was his mischance, and my hard hap, that since his last vndertaken voyage to sea, which was some twelue yeares agoe, I neuer since could heare what was become of him: Wherefore of euery fish that falleth into my handes I still aske whether it can tell me any newes of him, and this petty sprat (my Lord) saith he was then a little one, and remembers no such matter.

ONe drinking to a Gentleman and saying Sir, I drinke to your sister Alice, and to your cousen Besse, and so vpward to your Father, and to your Mother, and then downe againe to your little brother Robert, and little Mistresse Frances, and the rest: He answered, I pledge your paire of staires.

OF VISITATION.

ONe came in a morning to speake with a Gentleman who was knowne to haue beforetime forsworne himselfe in false witnesse against a neighbour of his: And the Gentlemans Page answered him that his Maister was yet a bed: Within an houre after he ask'd the Page againe whether his Maister were yet stirring: whereunto the boy answered no: The partie hereat all in a chafe, departed, and said: Yea, neuer may he rise vp more in false witnes against his neighbour.

Sicuto

Siento signifies in Spanish, I sit, and also I feele: A poore Gentleman came to visit a man of worship, and they presented him a ruinous stoole to sit vpon: He seeing it, stood still, refusing to sit downe: The man of worship asking him why he stood, and requesting him withall to sit downe, He answered: Pardon me (sir) for no me siento, that is, I doe not sit, because *me siento, viz.* because I feele: He meant that he felt himselfe agrieued with so homely a seat.

A Scholler that vaunted what especiall interest he had in a certaine faire Gentlewoman, went (he and his friend) on a time to visit her: And she in disdaine of him, still thou'd him at euery word, and he as often ouer-tilted her with Honour, Ladiship, and Maiestie: whereat the Gentlewoman waxing testie and curst, asked him why he so exalted her in title aboue her calling? He answered: May it please you to mount but one poynt higher, and then will I fall one lower, so shall our musicke well accord.

A Courtier being a very braue Souldiour, and hauing fought many stout combattes, comming to visit a most pleasant Lawyer, the Lawyers man tolde his maister who was come to visit him, he instantly rose from his study, girded his gowne about him, put on a sword, a rapier, daggers and ponyards, and hung a buckler at his breech: Then with a halbard in one hand, and a law booke in the other he came forth, and the Courtier wondring at him, he said: Sir I that know your seuerall professions am only prouided for their seuerall entertainments.

One came to speake with his friend, who being at that time very busie, willed his man to answer him that he was not within, but he by chance ouer-heard his voyce, and knew thereby that he was within: Wherupon he departed mal-content: The next day this other came to speake with him, and he hearing that he was come, look'd out at a window, and told him that he was not at home: Not at home? (answered the other) Why (I pray sir) who are you? Who am I? (reply'd he) I hope I am one whome you may aswell credit, saying that I am not at home as I to beléeue your man making me the like answere from you yesterday.

One that for his safety had taken Sanctuarie, a friend of his came to visit him, and said: Now thankes be to God your case is iust as well out of Sanctuarie as in Sanctuarie: Th'other answered, else durst you not come visit me.

A Gentleman that had beene long in the Indies, being returned home with a great scarre in his face, went to visit a friend of his, who knew him not a good while, till at last the Gent. discouering vnto him his name, and kindred, in the end he called him to minde, and said: Sir, you must pardon me, for (I assure you) your superscription being blurr'd, I could not well read you.

A Gentleman being in conuersation among a many of foule Gentlewomen, at last came in a very faire one: Whereat they all arose to salute her, and he said: If this Gentlewoman had not come, we had lost the game for want of a Court-card.

A Gentleman comming to visit a faire Gentlewoman, and finding her playing with a tame Conie, said: God saue both your Conies.

A Gentlewoman whose name was Thorney, sitting in her chamber betweene two Gentlemen, whereof the one was a great drunkard, th'other as great a Letcher: her maide came to her and deliuered her a message in her eare, e at rising vp againe, one said vnto her: Forsooth (Mistresse) will it please you to be gone so soone? No, not very soone (answered the Gentlewoman) for see you not how I am here setled betweene the skin and flesh.

PAja in Spanish signifieth a messe of meate, likewise straw: A meane Gentleman came on a time to visite a man of great worship, who was but newly set downe to dinner, and therefore sequestred himselfe into a Garden in the meane time: Where after he had walked a good space, at last in he came againe into the hall, and asked a seruingman whether his maister had yet din'd: who answering no, and that the second Paja, viz. the second messe was but newly seru'd in: All in a chafe he flung away saying: Nay, if he be all this while in his Paja, viz. in his straw, (as he meant it) surely I will not stay till he haue eaten his Oates too.

Wits

Wits, Fits, and Fancies.

The fourth part.

OF NATIONS AND CITIES.

AN Italian trauailer vſd to ſay, that the Portugall ſeemes a fole, and is a fole: the Spaniard ſeemes wiſe and is a fole; the Frenchman ſeemes a fole and is wiſe; the Engliſhman wiſe, but cannot ſhowe it; the Italian both wiſe and ſo ſeemeth: & the Dutchman would be wiſe, but for the pot.

A Scot vſed to ſay, that Engliſhmen are like dogges, for aſmuch as diſgrace you but any one of them, and the reſt will all diſgrace him more and more. So doe Dogs, for if one of them be bitten and ouer-matched with an other Dog, all the other Dogges in the ſtreete will ſtraight take parte with the victor Dog, and all to betearre the other. But Welſh-men (he ſaid) are like good Country Hogs, for let a Dog but bite or abuſe any one of them, or any of them miſbſe one an other, ſtraight the hogs in the ground will reſcue and ſauour the diſtreſſed hog, and all to begrunt the other away. No leſſe is Welſh-mens true loue and kindenes towards one an other.

IN the North of Ireland, where they eate but Oaten cake-bread, there was a Kerns mother, hearing that her ſonne was ſlayne in fight againſt the Engliſh men, came the morrow after into the field, and finding her dead ſonne there, after much moane and lamentation ouer him, ſhe chanced to caſt her eye aſide and there by eſpied a dead Engliſhman: Then vp ſhe roſe, and much accurſing our nation for the death of her ſonne, in the end ſhe ſtripped him of his apparel, and chanced to finde a ſtale ſoake of bread in his breeches,

which was of the prouision he brought with him from the English pale: Which after she had a good while well viewed and wondred at: In the end burst forth into fresh teares, and said: No meruaile though my deare sonne be slaine by one that voydes so hard and huge a turd.

A Scot was a preaching how that all men are one anothers neighbour and brother in Christ: euen the Turke, the Iew, the Moze, the Caniball, the farre Indian: and then concluded: Yea, and the very Englishman is our neighbour too.

A Portugall Frier was discoursing in his sermon of a great victory that his Nation had against the Spaniards that day twelue monthes, and said: Then both Armies camped neere vnto the riuer, we Christians on the one side, and the Spaniards on the other.

A Drunken Christian, and a Iewish Christian being at teames of brabble, the Drunkard call'd the counterfait a drunken companion, and the counterfaite called him a Iew: The nert day they met againe, and the Drunkard then said vnto the Iew: Sirrah, take thy Iew to thy selfe, and restore me my Drunkard againe.

SAnabria a Spanish Captaine vsed to say, that it was extreame cruelty in the Turkes to make their wiues their drudges in the warres, and no lesse vanity in the Spaniard to make his maide his mistresse.

A Spaniard brauing an English fugitiue souldiour in the Lowe Countries, said, that in his dates he had slaine as many Englishmen as he had buttons on his dublet. The Englishman answered: So often kisse you my taple.

ONe requested his supposed friend to stead him in a certaine occasion, which he refus'd him, saying: To doe you good in good sort, you might draw me after you to Ierusalem with a woollen twine, but to doe ill to pleasure you, you shall pardon me. Whereunto the other answered: I, so Ierusalem, I thinke well, for that belike is your Countrie.

DOn Diego Garcia Paredes vsed to say, that all other nations speake with their lips, but the Spaniard with

niard with his heart.

GOnzalo Fernandes said, that French men at the first encounter are more then men, and afterward lesse then women.

A Merry Gentleman hauing painted in his house the fashions and attyres of all the Nations in Christendome, caused the English man to be painted naked, with a paire of Taylors shears in his hand, and a cloath before him saying: All is but one fashion.

ONe saying that French paper was better cheape in England then English paper: Another answered: No maruaile, for why, they haue more ragges to make paper of in France, then we haue here in England, by reason they haue more beggers.

A Portugalls wife calling a Castillian scruule Spaniard: Her husband said: Alas (wife) it is mischiefe enough that the poore soule is a Spaniard, though he be not scruule too.

AN English man brauing a French man, and saying That it was not for nought that England giues the Lyons, so braue and magnanimous is our Nation: The French man answered: I, but the Lyon dreads the Cocke: So said in reference that French men are called in Latine Galli.

ISabell Queene of Spaine hearing another Citty praised aboue Toledo, said: If it be as great as Toledo, then is it not so strong, And if it be so strong, then is it not so great.

A Great Clearke being come to Toledo, where he noted the people very ingenious, quill and discréte, he said: Neuer till now that I am in Toledo did I thinke my selfe an errand foole.

IT is the prouerbiall praise of Venice: Venice, whoe-uer saw it, cannot esteeme it.

ISabell Queene of Spaine asked one Don Alonso Carilio what he thought of the City of Cordua: Who answered: A many villiages met in Parliament.

A Spanish

A Spanish Jester woonted to say, that in the Citty of Sigonia were eight moneths of winter, and foure of hell.

IT is prouerbiall in our Countrey, From Hull, Hell, and Hallifax, Good Lord deliuer vs.

OF RELIGIONS.

ONe prayed thus: God bleſſe and ſaue my Father, my Mother, my Brothers, my Sisters, my Wife, my Children and me, and no more: Another that ouerheard him, answered: The Deuill take thy Father, thy Mother, thy Brothers, thy Sisters, thy Wife, thy Children, and thee, and no more.

A Scottish Euangilist quarrelling with an English man about Religion: But (said hee) you are all Papists yet in England, for that your Churches are still standing euery where.

A N Italian Pesant hearing in a passion Sermon vpon a Good Fryday, that Iewes did crucifie Christ, the Preacher much enueighing against their hard heartednesse therein: Anon after the Sermon ended, he demaunded of one what Countrey woman the Virgin Marie was? To whome being answered that she was a Iewe: The Swaine then remembring that she was their Countrey woman that crucifi'd Christ, all in a rage he ruſht vpon the Image, and all to broke it: So indiscreetely the fole hated Iewes for Christ his sake.

A Pure Dame caus'd her Picture to be drawne: With a Byble in her hand, and a drop of bloud falling downe from Heauen vpon it, and written vnderneath thus. By Gods bloud and his word I am sure to be saued.

AT what time the Inquisition was first established in Spaine, it was proclaimed throughout all that Countrey,

Countrie, that all Iewes that would not subscribe thereunto, should within certaine dayes voyde the Realme & pack away. A company of Iewes hereupon presently departed, and arrived at Marselles, a Sea-Towne in France: Now one of them walking the next day vpon the key, saw another ship arriue thither, and some halfe dozen of his Iewish acquaintance disembarke out of it, whome he heartily welcommed into those parts, and demaunded the cause of their comming: They (because a many Frenchmen were in place and loath they were to be knowne for Iewes) answered: Hether we are come for the death of a certaine man; The other reply'd: And I euen for the same cause.

ONe inuited a Iewe to dinner, and caus'd mince Porke to be serued to the boord, so deceiptfully, that he thought the Iewe could not suspect it: But the Iewe imagining the truth, ask'd notwithstanding what meat it was. They answered, mins'd birds of diuers sortes. Oh would they had wings (then said the Iew) to flye away from this boord.

A Padray being demanded of what Religion he was, answered, Euer of the kings, for it must necessarily be, that he which is the best man, hath euer the best vertues.

A Conuertite Iewe trauailing on the way with certaine Spanish Gentlemen, they arriued at last at a brooke, where because they knew not the certaine depth of it, they straind curt'sie who would goe formost: At last the Conuertite was the hardy man that did it, and he did it safely, and then the rest followed after. Being all safe on the other side, one of the Gentlemen said, that he maruell'd how so late a Christian as he, could haue the heart to aduenture himselfe to danger, seeing such kinde of men are most fearefull in all dangerous occasions: Whereunto another of them adioyned: From fire God blesse him, for water (we see) he little feares.

TWo dissembling Christians, being indeede both Iewes as well in their secret beleefe, as in linage, were at fearmes of brabble with one another, th'one demaunding a

certaine debt, and th'other denying it: Whereupon the demandant challenged his faithfull promise made him at such a time for the repay thereof: which the other confessed, but adioyned withall, that that faithfull promise was but to amend his faith: With that in steps me a Spaniard, an acquaintance of them both, and said: Being both one peece of cloth, how can any amendment be perceiued?

A Jewish Christian being at a banquet in a wood among many Ladies and Gentlemen, a Gammon of Bacon was seru'd to the boord, and he to auoyd suspition of Judaisme, tasted thereof: But when the banquet was done, he sorted himselfe alone into the thickest of the wood, & behinde a tree fore'd vp all the Bacon againe with a fether out of his stomacke: Which being seene by one or two of the company, they all iested at him therefore, and call'd him Jew: No Jew (Gentlewoman said he) but thus: Allone as euer the Deuils sawe, or smelt so good a relicke as Bacon within my body, they straight flew out at my mouth in vomit.

One call'd a dissembling Jew, Turn-coat: Whereupon the Iewe entred his action of slander against him, and hauing brought it to the issue, the party was condemned to confesse in open court the slander, and withall to pay him a somme of money in consideration: Then the partie thus in open Court retracted the slander, saying: I confesse that I haue highly iniur'd maister N. in hauing called him Turne-coat, for (on my conscience I thinke he is still as errand a Jew as euer he was.

A Preacher in Spaine perswaded a Moore to Christianity who seeming conceiptlesse of what was said vnto him, the Preacher said: For ought I see, my words enter in at one eare of you, and goe out at the other: The Moore answered: they neither enter in, nor yet goe out.

One in Queene Maries dayes that had formerly vnder King Henry gotten much by the fall of Abbayes, went about to build a Chappell: Whereupon a Gentleman his neighbour said, that it was like as if one hauing first ruinshed the Mother, would afterward pay for the nursing of the childe.

One

ONe vſed to ſay that it is a merry woꝛld when folke accompt it folly to build a Church.

ONe that was a Jewes ſonne, and paſſed foꝛ a Chriſtian, met a Gentleman an aduerſary of his a hoꝛſe back, he himſelfe being alſo on hoꝛſe back, and ſaid vnto him: Howe chanceth it maiſter N. you ride ſo weaponleſſe to day? the other anſwered: Marie becauſe I meane not to kill him vpon the Croſſe.

ONe hearing that a Jewe had murther'd his childe, ſaid: Better bee a Jewes hogge by that accompt then his childe. Foꝛ Jewes eate no hogges fleſh.

A Zealous Virgin Jew in Rome was held in high reuerence among the Iſraelites there, ſo very verꝛuous ſhe ſæmed, and chaſte in all her carriage: But a Flozentine found the way by night to her maiden bed, and did his deede ſo thꝛoughly, that all her holineſſe would no longer conceale it, but ſtill ſwell'd euery day mozeand moze, till being at laſt vtterly detected, 'twas ten to one that ſhe was not reputed a baggage: But in lieue of ſuch infamy, ſo erroneous was the reuerence ſhe Jewes had of her virginity, that they perſwaded themſelues ſhe was verily with childe of their Meſſias: And in that errour their Rabins directed their letters and poſts vpon poſts to all the Jewiſh Synagogues thꝛoughout all Chꝛiſtendome and Greece, foꝛ certaine Elders of euery Synagogue to come vp to the natiuity of that Babe: Which accoꝛdingly was done. Inſomuch as during that ſeaſon, Rome was a woꝛld of Jewes, ſo confluently they repaired thether from all partes: Now marke the end: At nine moneths end this Virgin Jew was bꝛought to bed of a Flozentine daughter.

OF ATTYRES.

A Nelder Bꝛother was commending his younger Bꝛothers greene cloake, and ſaid it became him paſſing

well: Th'other answered: But a blacke mourning cloake from you would become me better.

One wore his shoes garnish't with cut & uncut fringe, and one said unto him, weare a maske before your face for shame that the world discouer not your pimples.

One wore a strawe hatte in a strange place, and the people flock't about him, all gazing at the nouelty: At last a Church-man passed by, and pittying to see a stranger so gaz'd upon, asked him whether he had any acquaintance thereabout or no: who answered, Why aske you: Marie to th'end (quoth hee) If you haue any, he may doe well to come and defend you from those beastes, least happily they eate vp all your strawe, and leaue you ne're a whit for your supper.

One seeing a Gentlewoman atty'd all in white, said: She had laid her chastity a whiting.

One wore his cassock-sleeues close girt under his girdle, and one that sawe it said, that it was like a pinion'd Goose.

A Spaniard hauing a Moore slaue, let him go a long time in a poore ragged mandilian without sleeues, one asking him why he dealt so sleeuelesly with the poore wretch: he answered: I crop not his winges for feare he fly away.

A Lady of high calling disguizing herselfe with a vayle, and accompanied onely with her waiting Gentlewoman, went to a Gold smith to cheapen plate, and standing at the shop, a Gallant chanced to come by, and seeing her so, and supposing her such a one as would easily admit conference in loue and lenity, began to commune and complie with her in that kinde, but she gaue him a scornefull begone, saying: See heere's vnder this vayle no common garment, nor am I as I seeme. The Gallant thereat all in a chafe answered: Be's what you be will, and be so atty'd then, or else be as you are atty'd.

A Gentleman prepared himselfe toward a day of tylting, and because money fayl'd him to furnish him passing braue against the time, he was faine to sell a very rich Mandilian that he had, saying: Whiles others Mandillan themselues

themselues toward Tylt, I vnmandillian me.

A Jester seing a Gallant weare a little deminitiue bonnet vpon his head, with a band to it, all to be set with Gold buttons, said: Foule befall the Smith that shod yonder Asse so close.

A Nopsart Gallant was attyred in Taffata all ouer figured with flames of fire, which a Gentleman seeing, and knowing his base parentage, said to them in his compayne: Behold, yonder strawey Cottage goes in danger of fiering.

A Faire Gentlewoman willed her seruant on a day of Tilting to attyre himselfe all in greene, which he did: And comming into the Tylt-yard, Gonzalo Fernandes the great Spanish Captaine knewe him, and guessing at his Pistrelle, and at the cause of his greene, said vnto him: If she know you not by your habit, giue it her in hand.

One that for the space of many yeares together was neuer seene on the Holy-daies other then in one cloake, a Gentleman thus beiested him, saying: We're a holy day but I see cloakes, but neuer sawe I cloake of so many holydayes in all my life.

A Great Prince marrying a Gentlewoman of good but not equall degree, and finding some emulation betwixt his and her kindred, caused his wedding suite to be made of Sackcloth cut vpon cloth of Gold, and imbroydred betweene the cuts, this sentence.

Cloth of Gold be thou not wroth,
though thou be matcht with Sackcloth.
Sackcloth be not thou too bold,
though thou be matcht with cloth of Gold.

A Gentleman comming to the Tylt in a Caparison, Plumes and Bases all Orenge tawny, ranne so infortunately vildly, that he brake neuer a Staffe of fire but one which was crosse the body of his opposer: the nert day he came to the Tylt againe cloathed all in greene, but then he brake neuer a Staffe at all, in so much that Gentlemen arguing the reason of his change of colours, one sitting by answered: Why, because the common people may report that

the Gentleman in the Greene ranne worse then he in the Orenge-tawny.

A Gallant came to run at the Ring, all clad in haire-colour Velvet, and over it a vayle of white Taffata, girt close to him a la Morisco, whereupon the Emperour Charles asking his Jester what it was like: he answered: Like the bowells of a beast wrapt in their call.

A Gentleman came in a maske bested all in blacke, overfigured with Deaths heades, and one that saw it said: Jesu, what a number of foles faces haue we here? The Gentlemans Page standing by answered: Nay there lacks yours to make it seeme so.

OF OFFICERS.

A Spanish Earle retain'd an Usher for his Lady, and bid his Steward set him downe twenty pound wages The Steward for his Lords profit would not set him downe presently according as he was encharged, but of a moneth after: In which meane time the Earle asking the Usher whether the Steward had yet set him down in his booke or no: he answered: Ay and like your Honour, he will haue me stand on my legges one moneth to an end.

A Gent. of her Maiestyes priuy chamber comming to a merry Recorder of London, about some state affaire, met him by chance in the streete going to dinner to the Lord Mayor, and proffered to deliuer him his encharge, but the dinnerly Officer was so hastie on his way that he refused to heare him, poasting him ouer to another season, the Gent. notwithstanding still urged him to audience, without discouering either who he was or what he would: Whereupon the Recorder then merrily turn'd backe to his horse and said: Horse, tell this man that I am going to dinner to my Lord Maior, and that I cannot now attend his tittle tattle, for (well I wot) he will not beleeue me: Whereunto the

Gentleman

Gentleman no lesse pleasantly answered: No horse not so (I pray the) but thus: Tell the Asse thy master that I am a Gentleman of the priuy chamber, one that is come to him about busines of State, and will him to dispatch me presently as he will answere the contrary.

A Constable had direction to disarme all that passed through his quarter after ten a clock at night: And a merry fellow chancing to passe that way, said vnto him; Are you the Gallant that must disarme all Passengers this way to night? Goe ye then to such a Cookes house, and take from him a Cozlet of mine, which lyeth there in pawne for pyes.

A Commendador of Spaine being discharged of his office, vowed, that he would neuer make his will vntill it had pleased the King to reinstall him therein: Which the King shortly after drew to doe, and then the first words of his will were these: All that I haue the Kings Maiestie gaue it me.

A Cauallio signifies in Spanish a horse-back, and Acaballio to end or dispatch any thing: A Maior of a towne riding poast through the Streete to pacifie a tumult, a Gentleman of his acquaintance met him, and ask'd him whether he went so a Cauallio, that is so mounted: The Maior answered, Acaballio.

TWo Fellons were adiudged to dye, and yet at last through much intreaty it pleas'd the Judge in fauour of life to ingaile them for seauen yeares: The Hangman seeing that, crept in and besought the Judge to rid him of his office, and appoint some other in his place: Being asked wherefore? he answered: Because you bar me of my right.

ONe chanced vpon the night watch, and the Constable demaunded his weapon, who straight discouered his cloake and shewed him a bottle of wine, and said: Loe here all my weapon; The Constable toke his said weapon from him, and he and his mates drunke vp all the wine, and then deliuer'd him the empty bottle, saying; Hold here (friend) the sheath againe.

A Constable raising vp his parish by night, to assist Iustice, made his proclamation thus: All you that doe not

forthwith

forthwith rise, and come to assist the Kings peace and Iustice, shall forfeit vnto the Exchecker 100. stripes.

THeeues were a rifling a Gent. house by night, and the watch came in with torches to attache them: Now, one of them to saue himselfe by darke, stroke out one of their torches, and ran away: But being afterwards apprehended, the Constable said vnto him: Belike (friend) you are next heire to the halter, that you desir'd so much the torches death.

A Courtiers man came to Queene Isabels Harbinger, and told him that the chamber which he assign'd his master, was much at a fault: with that the Harbinger pointing him to a gibbet that stood before the Court gate, answered: If your masters chamber be at a fault, see yonder where stands a gibbet.

ONe being condemn'd to be shot to death for a rape: the maid in fauour of his life, was content to beg him for her husband: Which being condiscended vnto by the Iudge, according to the lawe of Spaine in that behalfe: in steps me the hangman all in a chafe, and said vnto the Iudge: How (I pray you sir) can that be seeing the stake is already in the ground, the rope, the arrowes, the Archers all in a readines, and heere I am come for him.

IN a prouinciall visitation in the territorie of Toledo, enquiry was made for such kinde of women as did cure folke with charms, and superstitions, And among others, a decrepit Beldam was brought before the Visitor, who asking her what cures she did: she answered: Forsooth (master) I wash to the Marchants masterships of Toledo.

A Souldiour comming about a sute to a merry Recorder of London, the Recorder seeing him out at the window ran hastily into an inner roome, and there put on a Corslet and a head peece, and then with a Launce in his hand came downe vnto him, and said: Howsnow Sirra, are you the man that hath somwhat to say to me: Begin now when you dare, for behold, (I trowe) I am sufficiently prouided for you.

A Mayor of London died the very same day that he was elected, Whereupon one thus merrily said: A diligent

Mayor

Maior he was, that neuer slept all the time of his Maioralty.

A Merry Recorder of London being to diuide a brabble betweene two Cittizens, the one called Dunscombe, th'other Cox: and vnderstanding what a paltry matter it was, he thus iestingly said vnto them: Sirs, I very well conceiue your case, and thus I sentense it: Namely, you Dunscombe, deliuer ye vp to Cox all your combe, reseruing onely Duns to your selfe: So be you still a Duns, and he a Coxcombe.

A Gent. riding through a country parish, and being destitute of money, solde his horse to the Constable there, who seeing that he had an easie penniworth, straight arested the Gent. vpon suspition of felony: Namely, that he had stolne the said horse.

A Mr Abbot had bespoken of a Gold-smith a dozen of rich Candlesticks, and paid most of the money aforehand: Shortly after the Gold-smith died, & the Abbot came to demand the Candlesticks of his widow, which he knew were by that time all finished: Whereunto she making denial, & refusing to take notice of any such matter, th'Abbot was faine to get an Officer to enter the house, and to seaze vpon them to his vse, The Officer came and searched, and the widow being loth to leaue the Candlesticks, take him aside, and solicited his loue, & withall offred them in mariage with her, shewing him besides a large Inuentory of what goods and moueables the foresaid Gold-smith her husband had left her by his last will and testament: Which the honest Officer viewing and perusing, and vtterly misliking and detesting such her trechery, deliuered it her again, saying: Hold here (huswife) your Inuentory, and see you deliuer me the Candlesticks presently: So was she foyled in her owne pollicy, for hauing confest the hauing of them, she was faine to yeild them vp without any more adoe.

A Merry Recorder of London riding vpon his Mule would needs take the wall of all men, and riding in an euening all too ambitiously vnder the penthouses for that prerogatiue, downe he fell and his Mule both into an Kelsellar, & sore bruised him: Insomuch as euer after he vsed

to haue a man goe betweene him and the wall as he rid, for feare of any more the like mischances.

The said Recorder passing along the streete, and hearing a Souldiour in an ale-house calling for a Kingstone pot of beere, straight stept in vnto him, and arrested him of high treason, saying: Sirrah often haue I heard, and tasted of a penny-pot of beere, and founde good of the price, but of a Kingstone pot of beere I neuer heard: Sure it is some counterfeite coyne, and I must know how thou cam'st by it.

The said Recorder mistaking the name of one Pepper, call'd him Piper: Whereunto the partie excepting, and saying: Sir, you mistake, my name is Pepper, not Piper: He answered: Why, what difference is there (I pray thee) betweene Piper in Latin, and Pepper in English, is it not all one? No sir (reply'd the other) there is euen as much difference betweene them, as is betweene a Pipe and a Recorder.

OF GVESTS AND ENTERTAINEMENT.

A Spanish Gentleman being somewhat homely entertayned in an Abbay, where he was lodg'd in an obscure corner of a lowe dampie roome, the night being very colde, and he as coldly couered, chanced to fall into a sudaine flure, wherewith he all to berayed the bed: Whereat being much ashamed, all early in the morning by he rose, and away he would, and as he was ready to take horse, he said vnto the horse-keeper, I pray thee (fellow) tell my Lord thy Maister, that in asmuch as he did not afford me a bed in a chamber, I haue left him a chamber in a bed: Camora signifying in Spanish, both a Chamber and a Stole.

In regard of the many Chimneyes that are now adayes built in Houses, and the slender hospitality that is kept, a pleasant companion saide, that Chimneyes are built so cunningly

cunningly now a daies, that seldome or neuer they are seene to fume.

FErnando King of Spaine came in progresse to the Castle of Montillia, which was newly built by one Don Alonzo de aguiler an Esquire, and finding the staires somwhat too straight for so stately a building: the Gentleman said: And like your Maiestie I neuer thought so great a Guest should euer haue mounted vp vpon them.

A Houlholder hauing vnruly Guestes allotted him, said vnto the Harbinger: Beléeue me (sir) I am greatly beholding to you for my Guestes: he ask'd him why: Mary because (quoth he) they are so bad, as I shall rest most glad at their departure.

ONe said to his Hoste: This fruit that you serue first in to the bord, in my country vseth to be serv'd in last: The hoste answered: Yea, and héere too for this once. For it was all his fare at that time.

ONe inuited his friend to dinner, and hauing made him but slender chéere, excus'd the matter, saying: Insooth (Sir) we haue neither Fesant, nor Partridge, nor Larke, nor any other good bird for you at this time, other then hartily welcome: Th'other answered, You please the birdes well in that.

A Churle inuited a Gentleman to dinner, and hauing made him but homely chéere, said that he was heartily welcome, as a friend, not as a stranger: The Gentleman answered: Beléeue me I neuer thought we had béen so great good friends.

ONe said to his guest: Me thinkes you drinke very little wine, if all the world drunke no more then you, wine would be good cheape: Not so (answered th'other) rather would it be very deare, for I assure you I drinke almuch as I can.

IN Spayne Byshops marry not: A Spanish Gent. had halfe a foole to his sonne, and on a time he taught him how to entertaine guests with talke, as to aske them, how doth your wife, and your children, your brother and your sister, &c. The next day a Byshop came to this Gentlemans house,

and this young Maister his sonne thus saluted him: I pray you (my Lord) how doth your wife and your children, your sonnes and your daughters, your brothers and your sisters? &c.

A Man of Eminence and good place in his Countrey, had a brother who was a very famous actor in stage plaies and so spent his time continually: Now this Actor comming at a certaine time to visit his brother who then as it seemed was very extraordinarily busied, damst a great deale more attendance then his nature could indure, and therefore finding his entertainment contrarie to his expectation, He departed without seeing his brother, and onely writ a letter full of unkindnes, assuring him he should not see him againe in seauen yeares after. When the great man had read the Actors letter, he presently in answere of it toke a sheete of paper, and foulding sixpence up in it, seal'd it, subscrib'd it, and sent it to his brother: Intimating thereby, that though his brother had vowed not in seauen yeares to see him, yet he for his sixpence could come and see him upon the Stage at his pleasure.

A Spaniard trauailing on the way, alighted at a poore Inne, and they asked him his name: He answered: Don Pedro Gonzales Gayetan de Gueuara: Whereunto they reply'd, Sir we haue not meat enough for so many.

A Conycatcher hyr'd a chamber, and said to his hostesse, I assure you hostesse I neuer came in house in all my life where at parting I was not greatly lamented. And he said true, for he still departed without penny-paying.

One comming to lodge in a poore Ale-house, asked the hostesse for a good bed: With that she brought him into an inner roome and shewed him the bare earth, saying: Loe yet heere seauen foote length at least, heer rest you: Content (quoth he) but where (I pray you) is the pillow? She answered: Faith you are too dainty.

A Pyll-fauour'd man inuited a stranger to dinner, and at last in came his wife, who had also as bad a face as he: The stranger seeing her, said vnto him: I pray ye (sir) is this your wife? he answered yea: Then the stranger repli'd

Insoth

In ſoth (ſir) I would haue thought ſhe had béene your ſiſter.

QUéene Iſabells Harbinger buillited a Courtier in a Painters houſe, who when he came to him, and ſhow'd him the bill, and that he had read it, and perceiued thereby that he was one of the Quéenes Gentlemen, he ſtraight tore it, and ſaid: As ſure as you are the Quéenes Gentleman, ſo ſure am I the Duke of Nazareths man, goe ſéeke ye lodging elſe where, for héere you lodge not.

IT was a Gentlemans chance to be benighted in a blinde parith, where he was faine to lye in as blind an ale houſe, who when he went to bed, they brought him a ladder to get vp vnto it, by reaſon it was very high; Which he ſeing ſaid: Is this (I pray) the Fleas ladder?

IN Mourtia a towne in Spaine, there is an Hoſpitall of Bedlams and Fooles, called S. Bennets hoſpitall, whereupon the Mad-men and Fooles of that place are called San benitos: A Citizen of that towne vpon S. Bennets day inuited a many of his friends to dinner, and after dinner was done, and the cloath taken vp, one of the company ſaid vnto him: We thanke you for all this good chéere to day, and many a San benito I pray God you may ſée in your houſe. He meant, many a S. Bennets day.

OF MERCHANTS AND MISERS.

TWo Théeues came by night into a Merchants houſe of Toledo, and ſtole away a deske and a fether bed: The Merchant hearing a noyſe, aroſe & went downe, and finding they were but new gone, followed them to ſée what would become of his goods: One of the théeues looking backe, eſpied him and ſaid: Why how now, doe you dog vs? No (anſwered the Merchant) but to ſée whether you remoue me.

One asked a Marchant how he could sleepe soundly a nights owing so much as he did: he answered: Why man my Creditors doe sleepe.

A Marchant asked a wise man how he might preserue his wealthe who answered: Commit it not to Fortune.

Hernando de pulgar vsed to say, that who so desires to be soone rich, must haue two Muches, and two Littles: Much Auerice and Much Diligence: Little Shame and Little Conscience.

A Alderman lying on his death bed, certaine his prentises came to see him, and besought him to leaue them some good aduise, as a monument both of his great wisdome and good will towards them: Then he rear'd himselfe vp vpon his pillowe, and said: Tast your pottage before you crum in your bread: And so died.

A Marchant had agreed with a Wood-monger for all his faggots at pence a peece one with another: The wood-monger after hauing thus bargained, told him, that vnlesse he would giue him somwhat ouer and aboue, he would not vnloade them: Go to then (said the Marchant) I am content thou shalt &c. With that the Wood-monger vnloaded, and when he had done, did also helpe to carrie them downe into the Celler, in hope of &c. Then the Marchant paid him for his faggots: And he demanding his &c. The Marchant answered: My meaning was that thou shouldst helpe to carrie the faggots downe into the Celler ouer and aboue thy bargaine: So art thou paide thy &c.

A Marchant being ask'd with what maister he meant to place his sonne to learne Arethmaticke, he answered: With the Hangman, for that he of all others is the braueſt Accomptand, viz. of mens deaths.

One said to his acquaintance, I greatly meruaile that you are no richer, considering that on my certain knowledge you may dispend eight Testers a day, and you spend not passing two of them: The other answered: Two I pay, two I lend, two I spend, and two I lose: The two I pay, are those I alow my poore Father and Mother toward their maintainance: The two I lend, are those I allowe for my

sommes education in the Vniuersity, which I hope he will one day repay me againe (if I liue so long) as now I dee vnto my father: The two I spend, are vpon my selfe, my wife, and familie: The two I lose, are those my wife spends euery day in toyes and bables vpon her selfe, which I neuer looke for more.

ONe that ought a Merchant a great sonme of money, and his day of payment being neere at hand, shifted away all his goodes, and fled the Countrey. The wise Merchant hearing thereof, was heartily glad, and came to his wife and tolde her, that in asmuch as his said debter was now runne away, and had forfeited his band, hee would (before God) take the benefite of the double.

A Merchant that ought much, and was not able to correspond, fled the Countrey, and for haste left much of his goods vndisposed of: Which his Creditors seazing vpon, and selling at the streete doore to the moste giuers, one came and bought a feather bed, and said: That it was good sleeping in his bed that ought so much money.

ONe passing by a miserly Merchants new faire house, said to his companion: Yonder faire house is built for wealth, not for worship.

A Gentleman lent a Merchant his horse, who at his returne vaunted what a gallant horse it was, and how by the way as he rid he out-gallop'd all the horses he ouertooke, and had won with him halfe a dozen wagers, so swift he pac'd it, and so brauely he had put him to it: The Gent. answered: For such honour let my horse thanke you.

A Miserly Merchant asking one whome he greatly disdained, how he came by so rich a widdow, he answered: Euen as a man may come by yours after you are dead.

AN officious Welchman seeing a cripple Merchants widow shailing ouer London Bridge, tooke pitty on her trembling gate, and friendly offered her his helping hand all along: And as they toted it together, the olde woman asked him by the way what Countrey man he was: he answered a Welchman: Whereupon she straight desir'd him to shift on the other side of her, which he did, and so led her safe

to

to her house at the bridge-foote. At parting she hartily thanked him for such his good nature, and pray'd God to blesse him: And he asked her what was the reason that vpon his saying that he was a Welsh man, she straight desir'd him to shift on the other side of her: she answered: Oh (sonne) my purse hung on that side.

An olde Curmongion had worne a hat te full fifteene yeares to an end, and seeing it at last waxe red and rotten, hee said: See, see the falshode of these Haberdashers, how sleight they make their wares.

A Nobleman sent a Gentleman of his in great diligence, about some especiall affaires, and such was his diligence that he kill'd his Lords horse by the way. Being returned home, it pleased the Nobleman to make him pay fifty crownes for the horse, saying that he was content to reward him so well as to forgiue him the rest: The Gentleman thought himselfe hardly dealt withall, and answered: Sir, this is neither reward nor Almose.

Certaine Seruing-men complained to their niggardly maister how that his Steward allow'd them but onely Sallades and Cheese to their suppers a nightes: Whereupon the Gentleman call'd his Steward before him, and in a great chafe said vnto him: Is it true (M.) that you giue my men Sallades and Cheese to their suppers? I charge you doe no more so, but giue them their Sallades one night, and their Cheese another, and so in order.

A Niggardly Gentleman found fault with a dish of vnsauorie Dittes, that was set before him, and call'd it Cobblerie stuffe: A Jester then to taxe his Miserlinesse, said: Belike (Sir) they are fallen to that trade, because they will not bee beholding to you.

A Miser said vnto his man, Sirrha, you had best be gone least I giue you that you would not willingly haue. The seruing-man answered: Sir, I beleeue you not, for you neuer giue.

A Rich Churle was so miserlie minded, that he thought all mischeifes that befell any of his neighbours, was in respect that they wisht him ill, & went about to doe him

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some dispight, It chanced that his man riding in an euening to water his horse, both he and the horse drowned: Whereupon the Miser said: See, sir, out of doubt the Varlet hath done this to spight mee.

ONe was commending a miserly Gent. and said that hee was passing discreete, and as orderlie in all his actions as a clocke: An other answered, The Clocke that goes not, is naught worth.

ONe ask'd a rich Vsurer how many sonnes he had: who answered eighteene: Eighteene (reply'd th'other) Beleeue me, had you as many moe, the countrie hath curses ynough for ye all.

A Rich Miser lying on his death bed, a preacher came to him, and willed him to thinke on God; he answered, Oh, so would I, but it is all to late, I must now dispaire and dye. Oh, say not so (reply'd the good man) for Gods mercy is aboue all his workes, and vpon that maine merrie rely all our hope, for hee (deare Sauiour) dy'd for all: with that in stept a poore man to the Misers bed side, and said, sir for the passion of God remember the fiue poundes you owe me, and without it I am vtterly vndone: The miser hereat rear'd himselfe vp vpon his pillow, and staring a good while on the poore mans face, at last he answered: Sirrah, I owe thee no fiue poundes, for I haue cast all on Christs backe, as this good father hath willed me.

ONe seeing a rich Churle lighting himselfe in the darke with a rush candle, said: Alas (poore man) will your purse affoord you no better light; he answered, this lightes me to reckon my riches at the yeares end.

A Liberall man gaue three shillings for a couple of Partridges, and a churle his companion rebuk'd him for his excesse, whereunto hee answered: Tell me in sooth, might you haue these two Partridges for three pence, would you not giue it? Yes marie (answered the Churle) that were a very reasonable penny worth: Th'other reply'd: As little set I by three shillings as you by three pence.

TWo Gentlemen dwelling together in one house, were at deadly strife with one another, and the one of

them being a moſt niggiſh and miſerable man, for the more ſafety of his perſon againſt all poyſon that th'other might prepare againſt him, entertain'd a truſtie fellowe into his ſeruice, and gaue him due inſtructions how to ſerue him at bord, and eſpecially what drinke he gaue him, and generally of all poyſon, and in concluſion, offered him but 18. pence wages a moneth: The ſeruing man ſæing ſuch his miſery, ſaid: For ought I can ſæ, your worſhip is rather in danger of famine, then of poyſon.

A Miſerable churle beſtow'd an olde greaſie hat vpon an olde ſeruant of his, and ſaid: Hold hære M. this hat ouer and aboue thy wages, and ſæ thou deſerue it: The ſeruingman anſwered, with ſuch guifts your worſhip ſhall be ſure to be no loſer.

A Ouer-pyn'd Miſer complain'd that he had almoſt loſt all the teeth in his head with the rheume: A ſtander by anſwered, rather for want of vſe.

A Worſhipfull Gentleman vſed to promiſe much, and performe little: Whereupon a Gentlewoman merrily ſaid vnto him: In ſoth (maiſter M.) you were euen the beſt Gentleman in the world, If (your purſe ſtringes) hung at your mouth.

A Nextreame Miſer had gotten together a huge heape of treaſure, wherewith he purchaſed at one time 1600 pounds land a yeare: This wretch being at Church, was ouer-heard to pray: Lord, I thanke thæ that thou haſt giuen me ſufficient, whereby I næde not to ſerue any man, and thy grace to retaine none to ſerue mæ.

A Miſer had great ſtore of Poultrie about his houſe, and ſeldome or neuer kill'd any of them, but let them liue their vtmoſt date, and ſo dye. Being asked why he did ſo, he anſwered: The ſureſt penny in my purſe, is that I doe not ſpend.

A Boiſterous Miſer dwelt nære a Jayle: And paſſing on a time vnder it, the priſoner at the grate ſaid vnto him: God your worſhips charitie among a many poore priſoners hære, for Gods ſake: Hæ anſwered, Neither meate, nor money can I ſpare thæ. The begger reply'd: Yes (ſir) well

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wee wote your Worſhip keeps a bountifull houſe, for never lok we out at our Turret window, but we ſee great ſmoke in your kitchin chimney: That is belike (anſwered the Miſer) when my folke make me ſops: Sops (reply'd the priſoner) They are fat ſops that make ſuch fat chops.

One that was reputed a very rich Miſer, and yet died but a poore man and greatly indebted, another ſaid of him: Sure, I had not thought he had beene ſo honeſt a man.

OF ARTIZANS AND *Prentices.*

A Gent. looking out at his window, eſpy'd his neighbours wife in priuie familiarity with a Maſon, who wrought at his houſe: Whereupon taking occaſion to walke abroad, and paſſing along by that doore, hee knocked thereat, and ſtraight forth ſtept the Maſon, and ask'd him what his Worſhip would? Then the Gent. aſked him what he made there? he anſwered, An Ouen: An Ouen (repli'd the Gentleman) Nay, tis hornes, and that's no Maſons worke.

A poore country-man was deſirous to make his ſonne a Butcher, & came to a Gentleman a neighbour of his, to craue his aduiſe where to place him with ſome cunning one: Who anſwered, with a Phiſition, for that they of all others (he ſaid) were the braueſt Butchers.

A Joyner was a making a ſleight Cubberd, and one that beheld it, ſaid: It ſeemes (my good friend) you make this Cubberd for the father, and not for the ſonne.

A Gent. will'd an Arras-maker to worke him a peece of Tapeſtrie, figur'd with a faire Caſtle, and within the Caſtle a Dog barking, and at the Caſtle-gate a man all in compleat armour, brandiſhing in his hand a naked ſword: The work-man wrought it, and brought it home: Which the Gent. viewing, and miſſing the Dog, angerlie excepted thereunto: The work-man then merrily anſwered: Belike

(Sir) it is now dinner time within the Castle, and the scurvy Cur is gnawing of a bone somewhere in a corner.

One asked a Painter how it chanced he drew so faire pictures, and begot so foule children? He answered: I paint by day, and beget children by night.

A Tyler and his sonne were a tyling of a house, and the father did his worke so lowsely, that his sonne found fault therewith: Whereunto he answered: Fole, doe it well to day, and beg to morrow.

One asked a Chéese-monger what was the reason that butter & Cheese were so deere: he answered, Because wood & coales are deare: Meaning that because butter and Chéese might be eaten without charge of fire, and therefore was much bought vp, his trade thought good to reare the prices of them to a higher rate.

A Passenger asking a Water-man, why he wrought that day being Trinity sunday: he answered: I owe héere and there a many dribling debts, & my friends are vnkinde and will not doe for me, and therefore I am euen faine to borrow of the Lord, God helpe me.

One gaue ouer his Ale-house in London, & went to set vp in S. Albons: by chance one of his London-mates passing by his doore, and séeing him stand there, asked him what he meant to giue ouer his Ale-house at London & come thether: he answered: To recollect my selfe.

A Poore man trauailing on the way, met with a poore Taylor, who offred him his chéeres to sell: he (because it was an easie penni-worth) gaue him all the mony he had for them, thinking that the next place he came at, he might happily sell them for more. So trauailing on his way, at last he came to an Ale-house, where by chance was then a Taylors wife a tippling among her Gossips, who séeing his chéeres, straight thought he was a Taylor, & had him home to her house to dinner: And after dinner brought him forth a péece of cloath to cut out in garments. He all this time was content, toke the chalke in his hand, & began to make and vnmake, & countermake a many lines and dashes vpon the cloth, and so continued a good space: Till at the last, the

merualling

merualling thereat, ask'd him what he did: he answered: I measure how many Sizzers these theres will make.

One asked a plaine fellow, whether he could tyle or no: he answered: Yea, in a good houre be it spoken, I haue tyl'd in London.

A Discontented Taylor said to a niggardly Gent. who had abridg'd him the third part of his bill: You a Gent: Faith (Sir) no, a Iew you are.

A Artizan fed his Prentice onely with Liuers, and Lights: and being one day to goe doe a little worke out of towne, he bid his Prentice come after, and mete him at such a place: Meane time he went afore, & being come to the place appoynted, there he staid for his prentice, whom at last he might see comming a lose off, with a loade on his shoulders: and being come nere him, he merualled thereat, and ask'd him why he brought that great log with him: The prentice answered: So many lightes haue I eaten, that I thought the open country-ayre would haue carried me quite away, and therefore haue I taken this load vpon me.

A Baker loading a dung-cart, by chance a Kite flew ouer him, and a Taylor in the next shop seeing it, said: Oh, see there (sirrah) your fellow Scauinger: No, (answered the Baker) Pisk-louse, it is a Bullard like you.

A Gentlewoman fearing to be drown'd, said: Now Iesu receiue our soules: Soft mistresse (answered the waterman) I trow we are not yet come to that passe.

A Butcher running after a sheepe in the street, & crying to the people: Stop the sheepe, stop the sheepe: Another ran after him and cri'd: Stop the theefe, stop the theefe.

A Merry old Artizan, seeing a milke-woman passe by his shop, and crying fresh Cheese and Creame, call'd her to

him, and tasting of her creame-pot, as though he had meant to buy, dranke it cleane off, & so deliuer'd her the pot againe, saying: Get yee gone (yee baggage) come yee hether to coson me with your sowre milke?

WIthin a while after an Aqua-vitæ man past by, & he calling him into his shop, toke his Aqua vitæ bottle out of his hand to taste thereof, as though he meant to buy, and dranke of it at least a sixpeny worth at a draught, and so gaue him his bottle againe, saying: I marry, this warmes my colde Creame well, and chæres me at the very hart.

ONe asking a woodmonger whether such a widow were not in his debt? he answered, No truly, she hath alwaies paid me very vertuously.

A London Printer sent his prentice for a messe of mustard, who asking where he should fetch it? he surly answered, in France: Very good sir (quoth the prentise) And with that he tooke a Mustard pot in his hand, and forth he went to Belinsgate, where finding a ship bound for France, he embarked therein, and to France he went, where he remained for the space of almost a yeare, at last return'd home againe: He came that very same day twelue moneth to his maister, and deliuered the foresaid pot full of mustard, saying: Hold here Maister your messe of French Mustard.

THe said Prentise entring by and by into his maisters Printing-house, and finding a Dutch man there working at the Presse, straight stept vnto him, & snatching the bals out of his hands, gaue him a good cuffe on the eare, and sayd: Why how now Butter-bore, cannot a man so soone turne his backe to fetch his maister a messe of Mustard, but you to step straight into his place?

The end of the fourth part of this Booke.

Wits,

Wits, Fits, and Fancies.

The fifth part.

OF IESTERS.

ONe asked the Marques of Villena his Iester, what vertue he thought was in a Turkey stone? he answered: marie if you should chance to fall from the toppe of a high Tower, you to breake your necke, and the stone to haue no hurt.

THe Marques of Villena willed his Chamberlaine to giue his fole Perico de Ayala one of his cloath of golde Ierkins, & the Chamberlaine deliuer'd him onely the sleeues and the skirts of it: The Vice seeing himselfe so deluded, went straight to the father of the confraternity of the Court, and tolde him one was deceased that night out of the Marques of Villena his romes, and will'd him to come fetch away the coarse forthwith to buriall: The Priest beleeued him, not knowing but that hee went in very deede for a dead body: Passing along, (the Fole foremost, tinkling the bell in his hand as the manner is) the Marques hearing the bel, look'd out at the windowe, and ask'd wherefore they came thether? The Vice answered: We come my Lord for the body of the coate you gaue mee, which I verily suppose is dead, because I haue heere some principall members of it, without which, out of doubt it cannot liue.

THe Emperour Charles being priuate on a time in his priuy Chamber, accompanied onely with his Iester, one Romero de Figueroa a poore Gent. (whose small liuing lay vpon the edge of Portugall) came and desired to speake with his Maiesty: The Iester tolde the Emperour thereof, who answered: Bid him chose some other time, for that I am

now

now disposed to be priuate a while: No I beseech you Cæsar (reply'd the Jester) let vs haue him in, for out of doubt he will else for very anger put vp all his landes in a basket and flye to Portugall.

ALonso King of Spaine progressing through the countrie, passed by a great hil in the midst of a plaine, which seem'd to haue bene cast vp by the handes of men, and asking the cause of it: answere was made, that in the time of Almanzar a Moore King, Cordua was then chiefe towne in all that Countrey, and he enioyn'd the inhabitants thereabout, in token of their true allegeance to him, euery housholder once a yeare to bring to that place a basket full of earth, which being performed the space of many yeares together, rais'd it to that hugenesse as did appeare: Then the King asked his Jester how many baskets full of earth he thought it contayned? hee answered: Making one basket capable of the one halfe, there are iust two baskets full.

THe Emperour Charles being present at a Bull-bayting with darts, a couple of gallants bravely mounted theiwed themselues most forward in the game, which the Emperour noting, ask'd his Jester what he thought of them? who answered: They shall euen perish both together as did S. Phillip and S. Iames: And indeed it fell out so, that the Bull ouerthrew them both from their horses, and left them there for dead.

APleasant Jester being at the table with diuers Gent. amongst whome was a plaine countrie gentleman, one that had a great deale more vertue then wordes, the Jester all dinner time did nothing but play vpon his plainesse, and brake most bitter and vnsauorie Jests: which the Gentleman endured very patiently till dinner was ended, and then comming to the Jester and taking him by the hand, he tolde him he was blest in a most happy wit: For sir (said he) your Jests come from you so pregnantly and so sharply, and for mine owne part I could wish I had but halfe your skill therin, onely this I must let you knowe, that though I cannot breake a Jest, yet I can breake a head aswell as any man liuing: & so drawing out his dagger brake the Jesters pate

and

and beat him soundly.

A Couetous Earle came to salute the Emperor Charles, and his Iester seeing him, stilt pointed to him, and said to the Emperour: Este es Conode, Este es Conde. viz. this is the Earle: Esconde signifying also in Spanish to hide or to hoord vp.

THe foresaid Iester was stab'd to death by a Courtier, for his ouer insolent mis-demeanour towardes him: And as he was a carrying home to his lodging, accompaned with a great multitude of people, at last his wife espy'd him out at the windowe, and said: Alasse deere husband, what is it he? Oh what a pittifull sight do I see: The Iester ouerhearing her answered: Nay nay (wife) no great matter (wife) onely they haue slaine your husband.

THe said Iester being at the point of death, another Iester came to see him, and said: Ah my deare Francisco, and wilt thou néedes be gone? Then swéete (Francisco) when thou commest to thy kingdome (I pray thée) pray for me: That will I (answered Francisco) but to th'end I may the better remember thée, (holde héere) tye a thred about my finger.

THe waggs of the Court had curtayl'd a Iesters nagge, and he in reuenge thereof cut of the vpper lippes of a many Courtiers Stéeds in the base Court: Who comming downe from the Presence, euery one to take his horse, and laughing to sée the Iesters nagge at the Court gate so disfigured: Laugh on, laugh on Sirs (said the Iester) I dare warrant yée shall sée your Horses laugh anon, and out-laugh you all.

A Little Noble-man wore a broad brim'd Hatte in the Court, and a Iester séeing it, said: Oine my Lord but such another hat belowe, and you may serue him vp to the Emperors bord as betwéene two dishes.

A Iester séeing a poore Gentleman at dinner-time now & then conuay a modicum of euery dish into the cape of his cloake, said vnto the company, Sirs, I am now determined to make my last will and Testament before you all: And first, I bequeath my soule to God, and my body to be buried

in the cape of yonder Gent. cloake, and with that stepping to him, snatch'd his cloake from him, and all to shooke it before the company: Then out dropp'd heere a bird, and there a bird, and choise of much good cheere, he still shaking it and saying: I meane this cloake (Sirs) this cloake I meane.

A Jester vsed to say, that as soone as euer he perceiu'd a fray toward, he straight became a Launce-man, being ask'd how so? he answered: Mary I launch forthwith into the next house.

A Jester meeting the Duke of Infantasgo betweene two fantasticall Gallants, cry'd out aloud vnto him: My Lord, my Lord, you goe in danger: The Duke asking him whereof? he answered: Of drowning, were it not for those two bladders on either arme of you.

THe Cardinall Siliceo being on a time merrily disposed, sent for one Rauago a pleasant fellow to disport him withall: Who after he had pleasantly Jested before him a good while, at last fell to begging, and besought a good thing, which the Cardinall granted him. Then he besought his Grace to put him in good security for the performance of his said graunt: With that the Cardinall naming a certaine singing-man of that Church, the Jester excepted vnto him, and said: Nay nay (my Lord) I'le no such sureties as weare no buttons vpon their doublets, for feare the ayre carry them away.

A Jester seeing an olde Gentleman in the streete homely attyr'd, and wearing an olde fashion'd Tablet hanging downe his breast before, said: It is a good letter though interlined.

A Jester being asked what time he would gladliest chose to dye in? He answered, when Iohn a Nokes dyes: And why so (said th'other) Marie because (quoth he) he is so errand an vsuring Cuckold-maker, that whensoeuer he dies, I am sure the Deuills will be so busie about his soule, that mine may sneake by them and neere be seene.

A Jester lying a dying, sent for a shoe-maker, and willed him to make him a paire of shoes for his soule, the soles all of bell-mettall: the Shoe-maker asking him why so? he answered:

answered: Marie, to the end my friends may know by lowde trampling in heauen (after I am dead) that there I am.

OF SERVINGMEN AND PAGES.

THe Duke of Infantasgo sent his Page with a Peacocke betweene two curious Venice dishes to the Earle of Saldania: And it chanced that as the Page discouered the vpper dish, to show the Earle the present, downe it fell and broke all to peeces: The Earle receiued the Peacock, and return'd one of his Gentlemen with the Page, to excuse him to the Duke: Who hearing of the mischance, all in anger ask'd the Page how he broke it? With that he hauing the other dish in his hand, let it fall to the ground and broke it, and then said: Euen thus and like your Grace I broke it.

A Plaine Steward gaue in amongst other his accomptes to his maister: Item, for scouring the Pewter, and trimming your worships Beard, two shillings fiue-pence.

Such another Accomptant gaue vp in his accompts to his maister amongst other things: Item, for a penny-worth of lace two-pence.

A Gentlemans Cooke forsooke him, and went to serue another maister, whom the Gent. meeting certaine moneths after attyred all in greene, said vnto him: Me thinkes (N) you looke very greene now adaies: True sir (answered the Cooke) for I am sow'd in a good ground.

A Nobleman of Spayne, whose liuing was good, but not excessiue, had a vaine in placing and displacing his seruants, especially his Bayliffes, & Accomptants: Wherupon his mother asking one of his men on a time what place hee had in his maisters seruice, or what accomptes he yeelded vp at the yeares end? he answered: Actes and Monuments.

One Gent. was a telling to another, that his Page was run away from him, notwithstanding he had alwaies

vſd him well, both with good clothes to his backe, and ſpending money in his purſe: Whereunto the other anſwered: And I for my part haue a poore knaue, whome I keepe bare and pennylesſe, and yet he loues me well, and will neuer forſake mée: How can he forſake you (reply'd the other) hauing no winges wherewith to flye away?

CErtaine Gentlewomen came a goſſipping to a kinſwoman of theirs that was lately brought to bed a mile out of Toledo: The Gentlewomans husband being deſirous to make them a braue banquet, called his man to him, and bad him ſaddle a horſe quickly and ride to Toledo for ſuch and ſuch kindes of ſweéte meates, and hie him home againe preſently. The fellow went his way, and comming into the ſtable to ſaddle a horſe, he could not finde the bridle: So whiles he was a ſeéking for it, his maiſter thought it long till he were returned: And ſaid to them that were with him: Now by this time my man is on horſe-backe, and away he flinges: And anon after, Now is he halfe way (quoth hée) Lord how the knaue gallopeth: And within a while after he added: Now is he entred into Toledo, and now he buies the ſweéte meates, and now he is halfe way home, and at laſt ſaying: And now he alighteth at the ſtable-doore, and nowe héé comes vp the ſtaires, and now ſée (Sirs) where he enters in: Euen as he ſaid ſo, in came the Seruing-man indéede, and ſaid: Sir I cannot finde the bridle.

A Gentleman aduiſd a poore man that was deſirous of ſeruice, in any caſe to make choiſe of ſo diſcreét a maiſter, who happily, though he be not able to pay him his wages in due ſeaſon, or otherwiſe well reward his good deſert, yet that at leaſt wiſe will acknowledge his good ſeruice to deſerue conſideration.

VEluet in Spaniſh is called Tertio-pelo, as much to ſay in Engliſh as three Piles: A Spaniſh Courtier promiſed one of his men, his ſuite of Crimſon Tertio pelo: viz. of crimſon veluet, but woore't himſelfe afterward till it became all pill'd and bare, and withall ought his man three quarters wages: It chanced on a day that going to the Court, he miſſed his ſeruingman, and ſent another of his men to ſéeke

him

him out, and to bid him méete him in such a place: Whereunto the fellow thus answered the Messenger: Well my Maister, if he meane I should come waite on him, that he send me my Tertio: viz. my three quarters wages, For as for the Pelo: viz. the Piles, that is already all to pill'd.

The Duke of Infantasgo sent a merry man of his about important businesse, and by reason of much raine that fell that night, a broke which he was to passe, was so swolne that he could goe no further. Whereupon he turn'd backe againe without dispatching his Lords affaire. The Duke hereat was all in a chafe, and sore beknau'd him: Whereunto he answered: It séemes your Grace sent me rather to dispatch my selfe, then your businesse.

A Gent. hauing Jerk'd his Page for a fault, bid him in th'end pluck vp his clothes and make him ready: whereunto the Page answered: Sir, they are th'Executioners fée.

A Foot-man accompting to his maister how he had spent his money, amongst other thinges put in; Item, a pye for my selfe foure-pence, and for litter and prouander for your horses twelue pence.

A Many Pages prating together in the Court, and euerie one of them wishing his wish: I wish (said one of them) that I were a Mellown, that euery man might smell to my taile how good I am.

A N olde Earle being sent for to the Court, to answere some dangerous matter that was to be laide to his charge, walked vp and downe in his gallarie all in a dump, and thus mumbled to himselfe: God olde Earle be gone, for the Emperour (thou séest) hath sent for thée, and thou must be at the Court within ten dayes, or be accompted a Traytor: Goe get thee gone then, good olde Earle. A Page ouer-hearing him, thus remumbled vnto him: So shall you neuertheless, good olde Earle.

A Gent. said vnto his man: When I leaue off this suite, I giue it thee. The next morning the Gent. arising, mis'd that Sute, and (behold) in comes his man with it vpon his back: which he séeing, sore beknau'd him, and would haue beate him. Then the Seruing-man said: Why (sir)

your Worſhip left it off yeſter-night.

A Gent. and his man paſſing through a field together, a Crow in a tree cry'd kaw, kaw: See yonder M. (quoth the maiſter) yonder Crow calleth the knaue: No ſir (he anſwered) he beckes to your Worſhip, as to the better man.

A Seruing-man ouertooke a Coatch by the way as he rid, and ask'd the reare-man of the traine, what Lady or Gentlewoman it was: the Seruingman anſwered: The Queene of Clubbes: I thought aſmuch (reply'd th'other) ſeeing the Knaue of Clubbes to ride ſo faſt after.

THe Duke of Bejara ſent his Page to the next towne to buy him a Croſſe-bow, and the Page entring in at the towne gate, ſawe certaine Serieants apprehending an Vncle of his for debt, not without much bickering, and ſome bloud-ſhed, whereupon he betooke himſelfe to his heeles, and ranne backe againe to his Lord and ſaid: I durſt not bring your Honour a hitting thing, for feare to haue beene hit my ſelfe.

A Gentleman had an errand theefe to his man, and he in ſeeming to praiſe his fidelity, thus diſpraiſ'd him, ſaying: Not any thing in all my houſe is vnder locke and key from A. B. and he knowes it well ynough. For indeede he had a vice to picke open any locke whatſoeuer.

A Nobleman being to paſſe through a water, commaunded his Trumpetter to goe before and ſound the depth of it: Who to ſhow himſelfe very mannerly, refus'd his encharge, and puſht the Nobleman himſelfe forward, ſaying: No ſir not I, your Lordſhip ſhall pardon me.

A Young Seruing-man hauing a moſt miſerly maiſter thus excus'd him with a flout, ſaying: I cannot inſtly condemne my good Maiſter, for truly he neuer promiſeth or giueth any thing, but he is ſtraight penitent for it.

A Seruingman vſ'd to ſay to his maiſter: Now I beſeech God (ſir) to take away my daies, and beſtow them vpon your worſhip, that long ye may liue: Riding before his maiſter on a time in a darke euening, and in a great ſnowe, far from any houſing, and quite out of the way, he then ſaid vnto his maiſter, oh (ſir) theſe are the daies I alwaies pray'd

God

God to take from me, and bestow vpon your worship.

A Portugall Gent. trauailing into Spaine with a ciuill retinue, a Spaniard met him on the way, and ask'd the reare-man of his traine what Gentleman he was? the Portugall answered, no Gentleman. Then he ask'd him what Gallant he was, he answered, no Gallant: Then he ask'd him what Nobleman he was, he answered, no Nobleman: At last he ask'd him what man he was, he answered, no man neither, but the King of Portugalls Cosin.

ONe asking a Seruing man how much his maisters reuenue was? he answered: Able to feede a thousand persons.

QVæne Isabells Harbinger passing along the streete, a Spaniard ask'd his Portugall seruant, who his Maister was? whereunto the Portugall made no answer at all: With that the Spaniard (thinking happily he was deafe) shooke him a little by the cloake, and then asked him as before: Wherewith the Portugall all in a pelting chafe, then answered, my maister, my maister, who (forsooth) is my maister? Why who (the Deu'll) should he be but all the world.

A Gentleman sent his man to one Preister his aduersarie in Law, with the Courts iniunction to auoyd possession, and to yeeld vp his house to him: The Seruing-man went and did his message thus: God maister Preister, my maister sends you his confession, by me, and confesseth vnto you how that to morrow (God willing) he meanes to turne you out of house and home by vertue hereof, and with that shew'd the Iniunction.

A Great Gentleman vs'd much bountie toward his rich seruants, and none at all to his poore ones; It chanced that on a time riding through a water, his Horse stood still and stal'd in the midst of it: Whereupon one of his poore seruants merrily said vnto him: Your worship resembles your Horse now; adding his bounty to the needlesse streame: all to all, and none to nothing.

AN angry Gent, gaue one of his men two good flurrets on the eare, whereat one of his fellowes by fell a laughing, which he perceiuing, flew straight to his maister & gaue him

him a bore on the eare, and said: Sir, I returne your worship this againe, to bestow vpon yonder knaue that standes laughing at me so.

A Noble-man gaue an olde seruant of his two bores on the eare: And the next day being displeas'd with one of his Pages, merrily then said vnto him: I pray thee N. restore me one of the bores I gaue the yesterday, to bestowe vpon this villaine boy: he answered: Not onely that (my Lord) for your boyes, but the other also (if you please) for your Hobberdehoyes.

A Seruing-man being brought before a Iustice vpon suspition of felony, the Iustice asked him whome he seru'd: he answered, God: With that the Iustice commanded him straight away to prison: Shortly after being brought before him againe at the Sessions, he ask'd him (as before) whome he seru'd, and he answered, my Lord Chancellour: My L. Chancellour? (said he) why what (a Deuill) makest thou heere? Why tould'st thou me not so much at first? hee answered: Because I did not thinke you had lou'd my L. Chancellour better then God.

OF BISCAYNS AND FOOLES.

A Physition sent a sicke Biscane purging pilles to lose him withall, and he tasting and chewing one of them in his mouth, and finding it passing bitter, spet it out againe, the rest he wrapt in a bundle of hay, saying: There rest ye till yee be through ripe.

A Gentleman sending his Byscane-man of an errand, bid him doe it with great efficacie, and the Byscane answered: Efficacie me no efficacies, for all were N. Efficacie the deuill himselfe I durst speake to him.

A Byscane being demaunded what Countrey-man he thought God was, he answered: Questionles a Castilian, for that neuer in all my life could I yet loue him heartily.

The

THe Emperour Charles was preparing to ſtrike a Deere with a Croſſe-bow, & a Byſcane-page being by, mounted vpon a gall'd-backe jade, ſodainely whipt from off his horſe, and taking of the ſaddle, threwe it toward the Deere, and ſo fray'd him away: The Emperour angry hereat, aſk'd him why (the deu'll) he did ſo? Whereunto (the boy taking the Emperour by the ſleeue and ſhewing him his jades gal'd backe) anſwered: The ſaddle that can doe this, is it not able (trow ye) to kill a Deere?

A Spaniſh Preacher wil'd his Byſcane-boy to goe breake his faſt at one Dauids a Cooke, vpon his shore: Meane while he went to Church to preach: and reciting in his Sermon a many authorities out of Scripture, for the probat of his Text, he ſaid: And now (ſirs) what ſapes Dauid (trow yee) to this geere? Euen as he ſaid ſo in ſtept the boy at the Church dore, & hearing him talke of Dauid, anſwered him aloud: Marie no more Pies (he ſaith till you haue pay'd) him the old shore.

A Cockney ſeeing a Squirrell in a ſhop, greatly admir'd it, and ſaid: Jeſu God, what pretty things are made for money.

A Byſcane-Doctor had promiſed one an Aſſe, which Aſſe died ſhortly after: In th'end the party ſent to him for it, and he return'd him anſwere, viz. that he was now not bound to ſend him the foreſaid Aſſe, forasmuch as ſince the day of ſuch his promiſe made, the Aſſe was departed his naturall life.

A Foole lay a ſleepe in a field, and had pick'd his ſtaffe in the ground before his face, to fence him from the winde: By chance one comming by awaked him, & ask'd him why he had pitch'd the ſtaffe there: he anſwered: To defend me from the winde: Foole (ſaid the other) that cannot any whit ſhield thee: The fole replyd, Can the winde blow through it trow ye?

IT was a controuerſie in Law betweene two wiſe men, whether of them a Cuckoe (which they ſaw in a tree) cal'd cuckoe vnto: And after that they had therein walked all their pence, in the end they agreed to put it to compremize to a

neighbour of theirs, whome in the meane time they both plyed with butter and Bacon ynough, and such other like countrie eates, to draw him on their side: But he finding himselfe behoulding to both their bounties alike: At last when the houre was come, he thus awarded, saying: My good neighbours, to neither of you both did the Cuckoe crie Cuckoe, but to me, and there an end.

A Dogge had bitten a Foole, and the foole finding him the next day asleepe in the grasse, knock'd out his braines, and said: he that hath enemies, let him take héede how and where he sleepes.

A Stranger came to see the poore fooles in Bedlam, & one of them ask'd him of whence he was? He answered of Newarke: Then the foole ask'd him whether his father and mother were liuing, what brothers and sisters he had, and what trade or occupation he was of? All which he told him, and withall that he was a Gold-smith: Then the foole ask'd him what businesse brought him thether: he answered, none but onely to sée you: To sée vs? (reply'd the foole) Haue you a trade at Newarke, and come you hether to sée vs? Beleeue me (brother) I am not in heere for any such matter, viz. for so very a foole.

A Seruing-man was iesting with his maisters foole, and made him beléeue he could cut off his head: The Foole ranne straight to his maister and told him of it, who answered: He shall not cut off thy head, if he doe, I'le hang him the next day after: Nay I pray (reply'd the foole) rather hang him a day before.

One vs'd to say that a foole more benefits a wise man, then a wise man a foole: For that the folly of a Foole admonisheth a wise man from folly, but a foole cannot comprehend the wisdome of the wise.

A Gallant passing along by a Foole, the people wil'd him to doe off his hat vnto him: With that he ranne to the Gentleman and strooke off his hat from his head: For which being apprehended. and told how he should haue done it to himselfe, he answered: That were to steale away my owne hat from my head.

ONe chid a Fole for that he had thrown duſt at his face, and ſome of it was gotten into his eyes: the Fole anſwered, Truely I toke you for a letter.

ONe asking a Fole how long he might be a learning to be like him, he anſwered: That is according as the bopes doe plye yæ forward.

ONe vſed to ſay that the difference betwéene a wiſeman and a Fole is, that a wiſeman dreames but a nights, and a Fole both day and night.

A Byſcane Lackey came home to ſée his mother, and ſhe ask'd him how he lik'd his maiſter? he anſwered: Faith (mother) an honeſt Gentleman he is, but when he rides in foule waies, then march I faire and ſoftly after like a King: But when he rides in faire waies, oh (mother) that's the deuill, then run I, then ſweare I my heart out, his mother reply'd: Marie then I pray God (ſonne) ſend thee foule way where euer thou ſet thy foote.

IN a tumult in a towne of Byſcay, the Maior red the Kings Proclamation thus: King of Caſtile, Leon, Arragon, Nauarre, &c. Whereunto they all anſwered: King & Quéene God bleſſe them, but as for &c. The deuill take him, wé'l none of him.

A Gent. ſent his Byſcane to market to buy a couple of Partridges, and will'd him to chooſe them very ſwéete: The Byſcane went and bought them, and brought them home vnto his maiſter, who ſmelling to their fundaments, and finding them vnſauory, threw them at his head, and all to beknau'd him: Then the Byſcane ſaid: What (a deu'll) ail'd you to ſmell thereawaies, I warrant ye there is nere a Lady in this land but ſtinkes in that coaſt.

A Byſcane was ſore tormented to confeſſe his committed felony, and he would not doe it to die: At laſt when they had tormented him almoſt to death, they toke him off the torture, and beſpake him faire, ſaying: Well we ſée your inuincible heart, you are truely a man euery inch of you: But (faith) tell vs now euen as you are a Gent. did you it not? Then the Byſcane anſwerd: I marie (ſirres) as I am a Gent. that's another matter, why ſaid ye not ſo at the firſt?

Goe to, I did it: Confesse and be hang'd, and so he was.

TWo Byscanes trauailing on the way, were a hunger'd, and into a victualing house they went, and call'd for meat: The good-wife answered, that she had nothing at that present but onely a couple of hony combes (said one of them) what's that I pray yée? know ye not what a Hony-combe is? (answered th'other) I doe. Goe to (hostesse) fry th'one, boile th'other, and bring them vs presently piping hot.

A Byscane forgetting the name of the Halberdiers-stræt, demaunded of one which was the way to the Cote-of-male-stréte.

A Byscan trauelling on the way, chanced to passe by a pleasant spring, which seem'd to laugh vpon him, & he being extreame thirsty, and in sight of a village, loth to drinke water where wine was so néere at hand, he laid his finger vpon his mouth, and said vnto the spring: Nay laugh, and allure thou nere so much, I tell thée true, thou gettest not in hére.

A Byscane imagining the whéele of a Water-mill to goe by power diuine, bow'd downe his knée thereunto, and crept towards it to kisse it: The whéele entertain'd him with a foule slap, striking of his nose cleane, and halfe his chéeke away: Whereat the Byscane impatient, and starke-mad, rose vp and ran away, and said: I tell thée (villaine) thou art no more Gods miracle, the deuill thou art.

A Byscane was commending what dainty meate a boyl'd Cocke was, and said: That the hé-hen was much better meate then the thée-hen.

A Byscane scalded a Cony, and scraping off the haire, said little Vrchin, I meruaile how thou scrap'dst breaking thy necke, flying with so little wings.

A Byscane enquiring for a Shoo-maker, said: I pray ye where dwells there a Shoo-taylor.

A Byscane-woman complain'd of the Castilians for pruning their vines euery March, affirming that they did it of spight, that their Vines might not branch forth as far as Byscae.

ONe vs'd to compare follies to mischances, for that they seldome come alone: and therefore whensoeuer he saw

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any man ſay or doe a folly: He would ſtill ſay, Well fare it if it come alone.

One asked a wiſeacre who inherited all his fathers innocence: hee answered: I, and my brothers: But becauſe I am eldeſt, the fifteenes were allotted to me.

A Foolish man fell out with a Foole, and in his rage ran at him with a cudgell to beat him: The foole turn'd his backe vnto him, and glearing ouer his ſhoulder ſaid: We are two, ſo weare, we are two.

One asked a Byſcane how many horſes his father had, he answered: Fiue, with foure that are dead.

A Spaniſh Gent. borrowed his friendes Page to attend him to his Miſtreſſe, and being there, he was diſpos'd to ieſt with the boy, and ſaid vnto him: Tell me (ſirrah) is it true that all you Byſcanes are diſcended of the fart of a Iew? the Page answered: If that be true (ſir) you may doe well, euermore when you are diſpos'd to fart, to haue a Byſcane your companion, and not your borrowed Page.

OF COVNTRIE-MEN AND *Clownes.*

A Many Clownes were eating a Poſſet together, and one of them burn'd his chappes, and for very paine let flye a monſtrous fart, and ſaid: Goe thy waies thou art euen the happieſt fart of all thy fellowes, for hadſt thou ſtaid ſtill within, thou hadſt beene moſt miſerably ſcalded.

A Gent. riding on the way asked a poore Countrey-boy whoſe pigges thoſe were? he answered: My mothers: Who is thy mother; my fathers wife: Who is thy father? he answered: Goe aske my mother. For theſe witty ouerthwarts, the Gentleman entertain'd the boy into his ſeruice and gaue him good wages euer after.

A Seruing-man quarrelling vpon the way with a Countrey-man, offered to ſnatch his ſtaffe out of his hands to

beat him therewith : But the Swaine so well defended it, that he recouer'd it wholly to himselfe, and then sore belam'd the Seruing-man there withall, saying : Holde, take it: Holde, thou shalt haue it, and sore bruis'd him therewith, leauing him there for dead.

A Country-mans Asse died, and he going to the next Ale-house, roar'd most pitiously and said : (Sirs) seeing my Asse is dead and gone, I know what I'le doe; By chance certaine Trauailers being then there, and hearing him say so, thought verily that he meant to hang himselfe, and therefore for pitty sake made him a Purse among st them, to the price of another Asse, wherewith he seemed reasonable well pleased : And being ask'd what his meaning was when he said, I know now what I'le doe, he answered : Marie (sirs) to haue sold away my pack-saddle.

ONe shou'd a Country-man downe a paire of staires, and broke his nose, whereat he ban'd most miserably, and said : T'was thou (villaine) t'was thou : No (answered the other) twas not I, but belike you are ouer-mellow, and so fell downe of your selfe.

A Country-man shent his wife, for that through her default their daughter had straide aside, and gotten a big belly, affirming that she ought to haue lock'd her vp, and kept her short, so had not that mischance happened : The good wife answered : Locke me no lockings, the deuill take the key that cannot open that locke.

A Crooked Country-clowne of extreame rude behauiour, was chosen by his Parishioners to solicite their law-matter with their learned Counsell : Vp he came to the Tearme, and to his Counsell he hy'd him, who seeing so deformed and slouenly a fellow, excepted vnto him, and said : What (a deu'll) art thou the onely sufficient man of all thy Parish to follow this matter ? the Clowne answered : As for the matter (Sir) I cannot tell, but as for your worship (well I wot) they haue thought me good ynough to come to you.

A Plaine Country-man riding vp to the Tearme, met a prisoner carted on the way to the gallowes, and said aloud

aloud vnto him: Happy man thou, that hast no doings at the Tearme.

A Country-man lent his neighbour an Asse, and he neglected to returne him home at the day appoynted, so as the party was faine to goe fetch him himselfe: Who when he came, th'other deny'd that the Asse was yet come home, & made many slim-slam excuses to detaine him a while longer: In the meane time the Asse bray'd in the stable, whereby his maister knew that there he was, who then waxed very angry with his neighbour for so abusing him: Whereunto the other in a rage answered: Gogs nayles (neighbour) will you beleeue your Asse before me?

A Plaine Country-man came vp to the Tearme, and passing by a Silke-mans shop, saw a maid there weauing of fringe, to whome he step'd and ask'd her how much of that fringe she could weaue in one day: The mayd answered ten yeards: Then (he reply'd) By that account haue you woven since I came to towne (which is some fiue daies or there vpon) a fifty yards: Birlady a good huswife are ye, welfare your heart.

A Gentleman was saying to a plaine country-man: Beleeue me (father) if this hot weather hold, it is like to goe hard with poore beasts this next winter, the cuntry-man answered: God preserue your worship.

A Country-swaine drone his Asse before the Court gate, and a Gent. or two of the Court seeing him alto beate and misuse the poore beast, bid him be more milde & patient, and fauour the silly asse: With that the Clowne straight doft his hat, and made a low curt'sie to the Asse, and said: I beseech your good worship (M. Asse) pardon my rudenesse all this while, for sure I neuer thought that you had had kindred in the Court before now.

A Gent. married a Farmers daughter, of whome afterward he waxed weary and discontented: And on a day in a sullen mood he ask'd her how many burthens of strawe her father vs'd to serue his beasts euery winter: she answered: Before you married me 300. and since 350. by reason he hath one beast now more then he had.

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A Country man entring into a Cittie, ſtumbled and fell with his face into the kennell, and al to bemir'd himſelfe thereon: At riſing vp againe, he turnd round about vnto the people, and ſaid: ſee, ſee (ſirs) I had almoſt had a fall.

A Gent. riding through a village, aſkt a Country-man what a clocke it was: he anſwered, clocke ſir: we haue none, but yet we haue a payre of Organs.

A Country-man lying vpon his death bed, ſaid: Now thankes be to God that he takes me away before April and May.

A Felon that was hang'd, was carted backe againe to the towne to be buried, and a many boyes ſtood gazing vpon the coarſe: By chance a plaine fellow of the countrey comming by, and ſeeing them ſo gaze, ſaid vnto them: Away, away, (ſirs) for ſhame, you are able to put the honeſt man beſides his wits, to gape and gaze ſo on him.

A Widow Farmereſſe in a plentifull yeare of corne, had much in her barne, and much in her garners: A Creditor of hers came then to demaund the debt of her, and ſhe anſwered: Good faith (neighbour for my ſinnes it is come to paſſe that corne is this yeare ſo exceeding good cheape, that the deu'il a peny can I take for any.

A Trauailer being come to a pond aſk'd a country man thereby whether it were paſſable or no: who anſwered yea (ſir) you may very well: with that the trauailer plunging there into, ſtocke faſt, had much adoe to get out againe, but at laſt getting out, he all to rated the poore Swaine, & would haue beaten him, who anſwered, Truly (ſir) all my neighbour Balls Geeſe and mine paſſe ouer it euery day.

A Plaine fellow toke vp an Aſſe at truſt of his neighbour for certaine months, at fiue Crownes price: It chanced within that time the Aſſe died, and he not being able to pay the debt, fled the country and embark'd for India: Where hauing remain'd the ſpace of ſeauen yeares, at laſt home againe he return'd worth 2000. Crownes: and landing at Ciuill, wrote a letter from thence to his wife, declaring both his returne and his riches: She in her anſwere thereof adviſ'd him (if he meant to come to her) in any caſe to doe it very

very priuily, for that the owner of the foresaid Ale was yet liuing.

An old woman of the cuntry being suspected for a witch, was highly offended thereat, and on a time said to one of her Gossips: Now and pleas'd God (Gossip) would I were a witch indeed for their sakes, for then should I soone be rid out of this wicked world, and of all their slaunder.

A Gent. meeting on the way certaine Swaines driuing Oxen on a May-morning, said vnto them: What meane you (sirs) to trauaile this day being May-day? If you care not to keepe it holy-day for S. Phillip & S. Iacobs sake, yet at least-wise doe it for the May-poles sake.

A Rich Farmer comming to pay his land-lord much rent, by chance a neighbour of his meeting him at the doore, & knowing his businesse, said vnto him: You enter in like your selfe, but you shall come out like S. Farncis.

A Collier selling a sacke of coales to a Cittizens wife, by chance an old frying-pan lay by: Then she asking him whether his coales were Oaken-coales or no, he straight toke vp the said frying-pan & gaue it her in her hand, saying frye some of them and you shall see.

A Country-man was lopping of a tree, and down he fell and broke his necke: The clowne his man straight ran home, and told his dame of it, and telling her a long tale, both how he aduis'd him to stand fast, and how dangerously he stood vpon the tree, and how he fell downe with the Axe in his hand, at last he concluded: And I assure you (dame) it was a faire grace of God that he cut not himselfe with the Axe.

A Plaine Country fellow being to trauaile home-ward from the Tearme, and passing along London streetes, ask'd of the shop-men and others whome he met, which was the way to Wakefield?

A Country maid comming to market, her mare stumbled in the market-place, and downe she fell ouer and ouer, shewing all that euer God sent her, and then at rising vp againe, she turn'd her round about vnto the people, and said: (sirs) did you euer see the like before?

A Gent. asking a plaine fellow of the country in a rany morning whether he thought it would not proue a faire day for all that? Mary sir (he answered) that shall I shew you at night.

IOhn a Nokes was driuing his cart toward Croydon, and by the way fell asleepe therein: Meane time a good fellow came by and stole away his two horses, & went faire away with them: In th'end he awaking and missing them said: Either I am Iohn a Nokes, or I am not Iohn a Nokes: If I am Iohn a Nokes then haue I lost two horses, & if I be not Iohn a Nokes then haue I found a cart.

A Gallant alighting at a country-Inne, tooke his horse to a country-man to walke, who seeing so braue a horse, & so richly trapped, ask'd the Gallant whether (and liked his worship) it were one mans labour to walke so trim a horse as that? Yea (answered the Gallant) I warrant thee one man alone may doe it? May you so sir? (reply'd the peasant) then hold heere, you may euen walke him your selfe.

A Croyden collier had cuckolded a lubberly gallant, who comming home within an houre or two after, and hearing thereof, straight remounted his horse, & would needes after the Collier, to kill God a mercy on his soule: And ouertaking him three or foure miles out of towne, there drew & made towards him resolutely to kill him: But the Collier leaping quickly from off his Curtaile, stood to his tacklings at the whips end, & behau'd himselfe so valiantly therewith, that the cuckolds pottage was soone cool'd, and his heart began to faint: Then there he paus'd and panted a while, and ask'd the Collier whether it were true indeede that he had laine with his wife? The Collier frankly confest that he did it: With that the Chicken-hearted Cuckold peaceably put vp his blade, & said vnto him: Gogs nowns (villaine) hadst thou not confest the truth (before God) I had cut off thy head.

A Country woman dwelling vpon Seuerne-bankes, and being with childe, sodainely long'd to haue the streame of that riuer turne th'other way, and long'd so extreamely to see it, that there in that very place she fell in labour, & was brought

brought a bed of a Salmon. Such being her husbands name.

A Country-Vicar preaching to his Parishioners against the excesse and vanity of apparrell that is now a daies vsed, compared womens Vardingales to hell, and mens Codpeces to the deuill, and concluded: Now put that Deuill in that Hell, and (behold) hee's where he would be.

One meeting a Welshman carrying a Hare at his back, ask'd him how he would sell it, he answered: I will not sell it, but giue me a shilling and take it.

A Countrey-woman chent her daughter for gadding vp and downe among Ale-houses, and she answered: Indeed (mother) I cannot blame you though you be iealous of me, for that I haue often heard it that I was your daughter afore euer you were married to my father.

A Countrey-man standing at a marke, an arrow lighted on his nose and spitted it through: At last the Archer comming to the marke to take vp his arrow, the Swaine met him with it in his hand, and ask'd him whether it were his arrow: Yea (he answered) where had ye it? Mary see heere (reply'd the Swaine) poynting to his nose: You haue made me a proper nose so you haue: Indeed if you serue me so any more I'le breake your arrow.

AN Ale-house groome came to a Gentlemans house in the Christmas time, and there in the hall fell a playing on his bag-pipe, the Gentleman passing by, he ask'd him how his worship lik'd his musicke: he answered: Mary not halfe so well as in an Ale-house.

A Countrey-woman was commending what a goodly childe God had sent her neighbour that night, and said: It is euen as goodly a childe (God blesse it) as the Queene and the Counsell.

One saying to a Country-man, faith (neighbour) if you marry lugge you may chance to repent it, for that (I assure you) she is a shrewd wench, and hath stomack inough: he answered, Tut (man) stomack me no stomackes, she shall want for no Bacon.

A Country-man passing through a streete in London, stumbled and his taile fell to the ground: A Prentise

ſæing it, fell a laughing, and ſaid: Sée, ſée (fellow) how fine London is, it brookes no ſuch ſwaines as you: with that the Countrey-man turn'd backe, and anſwered, As fine as it is, it hath kiſt my taile for this once.

A Swaine ſaying to his wife that ſhe had as many lines as a Cat, ſhe anſwered: And you but one, and too many by that.

A Countrey-man paſſing along the ſtréte, met with a Car, and the horſe eſpying his bounſing beard, ſnap'd at it in ſtead of a bottle of hay, then the Countrey-man ſaid: The deu'll take thée: who made thee a Barber?

A Country-man had kill'd a Hare ſitting, and becauſe it was Lent, he knew not whome to giue it, and himſelfe was no Lolard neither: So being grieuouſly perplex'd about the matter, in the end he eſpy'd a ſhepherd on the doune, and went and offered it him, but the ſhepheard would likewiſe none of it, becauſe it was Lent, and bid him kéepe it to himſelfe: With that the Swaine being at his wits end how to beſtowe it, repented that euer he kill'd it, and would néedes haue gone backe againe and laid it where he kill'd it; But at laſt (to ſaue a labour) he offered the ſhepheard fiue pence to take it.

A Countrye-man came vp to the Tearme, and went to a Lawier (a friend of his) for his aduice in law, offring him a fée, which the Lawyer refuſed, in reſpect he was his nére neighbour, and a good fellow: Then the Country-man ſaid vnto him well (Sir) ſince you will take no fée of me, I hope when you come downe into the Countrey you will not refuſe a Cony, or ſuch a trifle at my hands: I (anſwered the Lawyer) a Cony or ſuch a thing I care not if I take. Say you ſo ſir? (reply'd the Swaine) I promiſe you that's more then I and my dog can doe.

TWo Swaines were a brawling, and th'one of them being quick of hand, tooke th'other a foule cuffe on the eare and fell'd him, who at riſing vp ſaid: Faith thou art a ſkurnie fellow, ſo thou art, canſt thou not braule but thou muſt ſmite too? I could haue braul'd with thee a whole day together before euer I would haue ſmitten thée.

A Countrey-Parſon preaching vnto his Pariſhioners, ſaid: Neither by Peter nor yet by Paule are we to be ſaued, but by Gods blood onely: they all anſwered, Oh ſweare not. Then hée proceeded, and ſaid: Nay, by Gods death then you are all to be ſaued, and no otherwiſe: they all anſwered againe, Oh ſweare not. Then he adioyned: Yes by Gods wounds and his paſſion onely you are to be ſaued, and if you thinke otherwiſe you lie, and are deceiued: And therefore tell not me of ſwearing, for I tell you againe, and againe, that by Gods death, Gods blood, his woundes, and his paſſion onely, and no otherwiſe, yée are to be ſaued. And ſo the ſermon ended.

OF FELLONS AND THEEVES.

A Braue Théefe that vſed the high-wayes about Toledo, it was his cuſtome alwaies to ſhare with the party whom he robb'd the one halfe of the bootie: And chancing one morning to rob a poore fellowe, who had but eighteen-pence in all the world, they wanted a ſingle three pence to make euen money: the poore fellow then to be out of his clutches, offered him the ſaid three-pence: but he refuſed it, ſaying: Nay, hold thou it, and God helpe me with that I haue already.

TWo Théeues were apprehended for a robbery, and being tormented to confeſſe the fact, the one did ſo, and was hanged: Th'other indured moſt horrible paines, and neuer would confeſſe any thing, notwithſtanding the moſt plaine proofes that were produced againſt him. Now, the law of Spayne is, that if a man by extremity of torture, cannot be brought to confeſſe his fellonious fact, hée to be abſolu'd, notwithſtanding what euident matter ſoeuer come in againſt him. This Fellon being then abſolu'd, & ſet at liberty, chanced to be certaine dayes after, in the company of ſome his good friends, and they merualling how in ſo clére a caſe as that, he had the good hap to ſcape the gallowes: he anſwered:

Mary thus : My fellow and I (whiles he liued) made this couenant betweene vs, that whosoeuer of vs (as we trauelled on the way) should first chance to discouer an Ale-house, he to pay the whole shot, and the other to goe scot-free. Now (as ye all know) hee discouered first and foolishly, and so hath paid the shot for vs both.

A Fellon was to suffer death at Granada townes-end, and being carted on the way to execution, a Swaine met him and said. Brother, now that you goe to dye, for Gods sake discharge your conscience, and tell me what is become of my Mule. The Fellon answered: Now before God (villaine) thou lyest: The Fryer (his ghostly father) seeing such his impatience, rebuked him gently, and bid him bee of a better minde. But anon after, the Swaine urging him for his Mule as before, the Fellon all in a rage answered; I tell the (villaine) if I had thee in any other place but heere, (by Iesus) I would teare thy eares from thy head. Then the Fryer said vnto him: Fie, fie, what a minde is this you beare? Beleeue me, if I heare any more such bugges words come from you, I will euen turne backe and leaue you to dis as please God: Mary, get you gone with a vengance (answered the Fellon) what (a Deuill) make ye heere? As little care I for your company, as for this cart: And foule befall him that sent me this way.

A Smith had slaine one, and was to be condemn'd for the fact: Then his Parishioners came in and besought the Iudge to spare him, affirming that they had no more smithes but him, nor any one neere them of many a mile: They further alledged, that besides he was a good Farrier, he could also make lockes and keyes, and all manner of Ironage belonging either to cart or plough: Whereunto the Iudge answered: My maisters, I haue heard your allegations, but on the other side, a man is slaine, and how shall Iustice then be performed? They reply'd: Marie, and like your Lordship, we haue heere a couple of Weauers amongst vs, and one of them will serue our turnes well ynough, we pray you therefore, hang the other Weauer, and saue the Smith.

A Fellon being carted away toward the gallowes, a country man of his met him, & said: Why whether away (Country-man) what all a la mort? I faith (he answered) euen to yonder townes end, to end a pribble-prabble matter.

A Murtherer being condemn'd to die, said: When I am once dead, some good body make dice of my bones.

A Nolde woman was whipt at a carts taile for bandery and witchcraft: and after all was done, the Beadle demanded of her his fées and charges: Namely, he reckened vnto her (amongst other things) what the paper & the picture she wore on her forehead cost him. Tw deare a paper (said the Witch) but take thy reckoning now, and keepe that paper till the nert time.

A Doctor of Phisicks man was apprehended for fellony, and being ask'd by the Iustice whome he would chuse to be his Surgion in the paines he was to abide, till he had confest the fact, he answered: My Maister, because I know him to be both a good Physition, & a good Surgion. Whereupon the Doctor standing by, then said vnto him: Loe here my Surgery then: Hold thy mouth close and bléede a Gods name.

A Passenger complain'd to a Captaine how certaine his Souldiours had robbed him of all that euer he had. Whereunto the Captaine answered: Tell me (friend) wore you that doublet when they robb'd you? he answered, Yea: Then get you gone (said the Captaine) for well I wot had they bene my Souldiours, they would haue left you neuer a rag to your backe.

A Murderer being condemn'd to die said vnto the Iudges Faith (sirs) I sée you would make a proper péce of worke of it, if a matter of waight lay on your hands, that thus for a trifle condemne me to die.

A Fellon being burned in the hand for his first offence, one ask'd him certaine daies after how he had sped? he answered: Mary the whole matter was referred euen to my owne handling.

A Ruffian and a queane were to be whipt at a carts taile in Ciuill: and the wench being brought forth of the Iayle,

Iayle, and méeting her said mate at the cart before her, said vnto him: For your sake (Sir knaue) come I hether to be whipt, and dishonored to day: he answered: Gogs nownes (whore) and where am I, I pray thée?

A Fellon being to be turn'd off the ladder, call'd for a glasse of wine, and receiuing the cup, he blew off the froth, and said: Oh, it is nought for the raines of my backe.

A Fellon being to suffer, a maide came to the gallowes to beg him for her husband, according as the custome of Spaine dispenceth in that case: The people séeing this, said vnto the fellow. Now praise God, that he hath thus mercifully preserued thée, & see thou euer make much of this kinde woman, that so friendly saues thy life: With that the Fellon viewing her, and séeing a great skarre in her face, which did greatly disfigure her, a long nose, thin lipps and of a sowre complexion, hée said vnto the Hangman: On my good friend) doe thy dutie: I'le none of her.

A Fellon being brought to the Sessions-house for a robberie, and being conuicted of the fact, and vpon the point to receiue Iudgement, the Iudge ask'd him, what hée could say for himselfe, he answered: And like your honour, I thought they were Papists goods.

A Fellon being to be throwne off the ladder, said to the people: Haue at yonder Mayde.

A Fellon that had lost one of his eares for his former fact and was condemn'd the second time to lose the other, his haire was so ouer growne, and hung so wildly about his face, that the Hang man could not readily finde his eare, and was thereat halfe angrie: Which the Fellon seeing, was no lesse collericke, & said: Gogs nailes (villaine) am I bound to finde thée eares euery Sessions?

TWo Théeues came by night to rob a Merchants shop, and it chanced that a boy lay there that night, who ouerhearing their attempt, said vnto them: Sirs, get you gone, and come againe anon, for I am not yet aslepe.

A Officer passing along the streete in an euening, saw thrée or foure good fellowes carrying a chest, & certaine lose plate out of a house: & he ask'd them whose goods they were?

were? they answered: Of yonder house where you saw vs come out, which we carry to another house, because the good-man there is euen now dead of the plague, & his houshold remoues forth-with: Then the Officer ask'd them how it chanced that none of the house stood weeping at the streets-doore? (such being the Spanish maner in that case) they answered: I warrant yee you shall see weeping eyes ynow there to morrow, and so he did indeede: For walking that way in the morning, he saw the good-wife weeping at her doore for the losse of her plate and other rich goods, which they carried away in that chest.

One did a robbery in one shiere, and was taken in another, and being brought before the Iustice there, the Iustice thought good to returne him backe againe to the other shiere where he committed the robbery: Whereupon the theefe said vnto him: I pray (sir) if that be the Law, let me aske you one question: How if a man be taken abed too night with his neighbours wife, ought he to be sent thether againe the next night too?

A Fellon at the barre pleading eagerly in his defence, and seeing the Iudge busie in talke, with one that came & deliuer'd him a message, said vnto him: I pray (my Lord) tend to your Iustice, and let that knaue alone till another time: Whereunto the Iudge answered: Feare not (sir knaue) I warrant you I'le see to you well ynough: The fellon reply'd, I had rather you did not see me at all, but seeing you doe, I had rather you saw me lesse, and heard me more.

A Country-man being set vpon by a theefe, was so light of foote, that he leap'd away from him: Which the theefe perceiuing, and being quite out of hope to ouertake him, stood still, & fell extreamly a laughing to himselfe: The country-man then turning back, and seeing him so merry, thought haply that he was some olde acquaintance of his growne out of remembrance, that in fest had all that while pursu'd him: and in that conceipt came towards him, & still the theefe laugh'd more and more, as seeming his acquaintance: Insomuch as the plaine fellow suspecting no danger, came within his danger, & fairely lost his purse.

A Scholler being to be hang'd, for robbing his father in lawe, at the very instant that he was to be throwne off the ladder, said: *Dulci mori pro Patria.*

A Fellon at the barre saying to a pitifull Judge: And like your honour, the thing I am heere accus'd of, was not worth aboue a Crowne in my conscience: With that the Judge turn'd him to the Jurie, and said: Heare ye not (sirs) what the poore fellow saith? hee saith it was not worth aboue a Crowne: And I say vnto you that a mans life is more worth then 20. Crownes.

A Fellon at the gallowes said vnto the Hang-man: Villaine, better yet be hang'd, then bee a Hang-man, like thee: true (answered the Hangman) were it not for hanging.

OF CONY-CATCHERS.

A Merry Gent. landing at a sea-towne in this land, and lying there in an Inne at greater charge then his present indigence could defray, bid his man in a morning goe downe and mal-content himselfe before the Hoste and Hostesse, and mumblingly to say: Lord what a scalde Maister doe I serue! This it is to serue such Seminary Priests and Jesuites: Now (before God) I'le euen leaue him in the lurtch, and shift for my selfe: Hee's a doe about Pennance and Mortification, as though (forsooth) the Lord had not died enough for all. The fellow mumbled out these his instructions so disguisedly, that it strooke a constant iealousie in the Inholder's heart, that (questionles) his maister was such a kinde of person indeede, namely a Seminary or a Jesuite Priest: Whereupon he presently sent for the Constable, told him all the premisses, and vp they went together to attach the Gent. in his chamber, who purposely had shut himselfe close in, and betaken himselfe to his knees, & to his crosses, to make the matter seeme more suspitious: Which they espying through the key-hole, made them no question

queſtion of him, but in they ruſh'd and arreſted him for a Seminary Prieſt, defray'd his ſcore there, bore his and his mans charges vp to London, and there preſented him before my laſt Lord Byſhop; Now marke the ieſt. My Lord knew the Gentleman paſſing well, entertain'd him with good reſpect, and diſcharg'd him preſently out of their hands: Who ſtraight pointing, and broad ieſting at ſuch their folly, taught them by ſuch a preſident more wit, and thrift againſt thenert time.

A Plaine Cony-catcher not knowing where to goe dyne went to the Sheriffe of London about dinner time, and eſpying his opertunity, ſtept to him and ſaid: I pray you (Sir) what may a wedge of Gold thus long be worth? The Sheriffe ſtraight thinking that he had found ſome ſuch great peere, toke him by the hand, had him in to dinner with him, and caru'd him of the choiſeſt meates vpon the bord: In the end after dinner was done, the Cony-catcher aroſe with the reſt, and after hauing reuerendly thanked the Sheriffe for his good chere, offred to be gone: With that the Sheriffe call'd him backe againe, and queſtion'd him aſide about the foreſaid wedge of Gold, affirming, that if he would ſell it, he would giue him more for it then any man: Then the full-belli'd fellow belching in the Sheriffes face, anſwered: In ſooth (Sir) I thanke you, I haue no ſuch matter, onely I thought good to aske you afore-hand what ſuch a wedge might be worth, if in caſe I ſhould hereafter chance to finde any ſuch to bring you.

A Cony-catcher hauing made merry in an Inne, & wanting wherewith to diſcharge the ſhot, ſtep'd ouer the way to a Barbers ſhop, and would néedes be trim'd, the Barber trim'd him, and when he had done, the Cony-catcher, toke a Lute of his in his hand, and began to fumble thereon, and fumbled himſelfe quight out of doores, bidding the Barber to come after him to breakefaſt, where he would diſcharge both him and his Hoſteſſe all together: The Barber beleeu'd him, and let him haue away his Lute with him, & by reaſon he ſtaid ſomewhat long after, the Cony-catcher in the meane time left the ſaid Lute in pawne for his good

cheere, and rid cleane away.

The said Cony-catcher making merry with a wench in a Tauerne, and wanting money (as afore) to discharge the reckoning, sent for Musitions to play to him as he was at dinner, and after dinner was done, sent away the wench priuily vnder colour to call for a reckoning, he only and the musitions remain'd there: Anon after seeming to merualle why she staid so long, he said vnto the Musitions: Play on (Sirs) a while, till I goe downe and see what the matter is that they are so long about the reckoning, I'le come againe presently. So downe he went, and they belowe suspecting no such matter, by reason they heard the musitions still playing aboue, he making as though he would but step aside to make water, slunke quite and cleane away, leauing Musicke only to pay the shot.

Two Cony-catchers came in an euening to a Tauerne, & watching their opportunity, th'one of them slipt off his cloake to his fellow, & tucking on an apron before him, stept into a lower roome where certaine Gent. were at supper, & in semblance of a seruant of the house, whipt away a rich salt from off the table, vnder colour and request that he might haue it for certaine Knights, who (he said) were then come thether to supper, leauing a pewter one in lieu of it, and so slipt cleane away therewith, and was neuer heard of more.

A Merchant sate in a sommers euening at his Street-doore, and a cony catcher came in the semblance of a ciuil Tailor, & doing obeisance vnto him, offred to step into his house: the Marchant asking him what he would, he answered: And please you (Sir) your Maid will'd me to fetch a gowne of hers to mend, I pray, can ye tell if she be within? Goe in and see (answered the Merchant.) So in went the cony catcher, and meeting with one of the Merchants men, tolde him that he came for one of his maisters gownes to mend, nam'd the gowne, and will'd him to deliuer it him presently: The fellow beleeuing him, the rather because his maister sate at the doore, and sawe him come in, and it was also likely that he would not so peremptorily demaund it but vpon a good ground, deliuer'd him the gowne without any more adoe,

who

who straight whipt out of doores with it vnder the Merchants nose, giuing him onely a cogging Conge, and a bare By your leaue (sir) as he passed by.

A Cony catcher hooking in the night time in at a Gent. chamber window, fastned his hooke by chance vpon his bed clothes, wherewith the Gent. awaking, and perceiuing what the matter was, holpe the Cony-catcher softly to vnfasten his hooke, and withall tooke holde of it with his hand, permitting himselfe as it were to be drawne by it: The cony-catcher thinking he had fastned vpon a prize, drewe still, and still the Gent. followed his twitches, till at last the Coni-catcher thinking to vnfasten the booty, the Gent. caught him by the hand, and with his dagger would haue stab'd him had he not cry'd Peccaui: So was this Cony catcher catch'd in his owne trayne.

A Seruing-man saying to win a Farmers faire daughter by faire meanes, deuis'd to rauish her, and thus he did it: The maid went euery night to milke her fathers Cow in a rough ground full of Bushes and Firtches, and to the end she might the more readilier finde out the Cow anights, had ty'd a bell about the nerke of it: The Seruing-man knowing her milking houre, stole to the place afore, & tooke off the Cow bell from the Cow, and when he heard the maid was come, he tinkled it still before her from bush to bush, till at last he drewe her by the sound thereof into a secure place of the wood, and there won her to his villany.

AN infinite of Emmets lay vpon a Vine-yard, and sore spoyl'd the Vines: A Begger by chance comming that way, and hearing thereof, vndertooke only for ten daies victualls to destroy them all: Then made he a little leather bag, and sow'd within it a scrowle, as it might seeme a Charme, and buried it in the highest plot of the Vine-yard, and so let it lie. At the ten daies end away he got him, and was neuer seene more of them, glad that he had so wel victual'd himselfe at a fooles charge: At last the bag being taken out of the earth, & vnript, the scrowle there inclosed was to this effect.

You that are Cookes, learne yee all of mee,
To fall to your victuals, when you haue it free.

OF BEGGERS.

One offred a Begger a benefite, and he of daintinesse refus'd it: Then th'other ask'd him whether he could bestow such another benefit on him; Oh no (he answered) I am not so able, would I were: Then hold here (reply'd the other) refuse not a benefit at thy betters hand, who can, and will afford it thee.

A Poore Scholler beg'd of a Scottish Queene her gracious liberality, saying *Pauper sum*: The Queene answered: *Pauper vbique iacet*: The Scholler reply'd:

In thalamis (Regina) *tuis hac nocte iacerem,*
Si verum hoc esset: Pauper vbique iacet.

A Constable ask'd a poore fellow on the way whereof he lived? He answered: If your question were whereof I die, I could better resolue you, for I die of hunger.

A Gentleman gaue a Begger a penny, and the Begger said: What? such a Gentleman as you giue a poore man but a penny? One penny more to your poore brother for Gods sake. Thy brother (quoth the Gent.) how so? Mary in Adam (answered the Begger.) With that the Gentleman laugh'd, and reply'd: If all thy brothers in Adam would giue thee but as much, thou wouldst soone be the richest Prince in the whole world.

Certaine wagges were beholding a faire Gentlewoman at a window, and one of them said Sirs, I suppose there is none of vs all but would willingly pawne his cloake for a nights lodging with yonder Gent. By chance a lame Begger stood by, and ouerhearing him say so, stept in and said: I and thether should my crutches goe too.

A Charitable person passing by a poore creature that lay in the street all full of sores & byles, did away the flies with his cloake from off his body: Whereupon the Begger said: Sir you wrong me with your charity, for these Flies were

lwers almoſt full with my bloud, and ſtung me the leſſe, whereas now new hungry ones will light in their places, & ſting me ſore.

A Miſer miſuſing a poore creature in tearmes: The poore man ſaid: I may be rich, and you may be poore: I may riſe, and you may fall, for you are high and I am lowe.

A Begger about London craving peoples deuotions: At night comming to a victualing-houſe where many of his companions reſorted, and hauing cal'd for foure pots for his ſhare, drew forth a groat ſaying: Many a ſcuruy fellow, & many an ill-fac'd woman, haue I cal'd honeſt Gent. & ſweet-fac'd Gentlewoman (this day) for this groat.

A Spaniſh Souldiour returning from the rich warres of Lumbardy, being but a beggers ſonne, and borne in a moſt barrain heath, where was not ſo much as water many a mile off, & where dwel'd only ſome halfe dozen ſhepheards and Colliers beſides his Father, the richeſt of them being ſcarce worth three farthings: This Gallant thus ſtantingly return'd home to Spaine, & recounting the rich warres of Lumbardy in all places where he came, was asked why he would leaue ſuch gallant wars & come home: he anſwered: the lous of my country.

Wits, Fits, and Fancies.

The ſixt part.

OF AEQVIVOCATES IN SPEACH.

ONe ſaid to an olde Forreſter, faith you are a *Senex Fornicator*: The Forreſter asked him what that was: he anſwered: An olde Forreſter: True (ſaid the Forreſter) indeed ſuch a one haue I beene theſe full fiue and fifty yeares.

One

One threw stones at an yll-fauour'd old womans Owle and the old woman said: Faith (sir knaue) you are well occupy'd, to throw stones at my poore Owle, that doth you no harme, Yea mary (answered the wag) so would you be better occupy'd to (I wisse) if you were young againe, & had a better face.

A Gentleman taking his leaue of a Gentlewoman, said: may it please you to will me any seruice? She answered: No, I doe not yet make my will.

A Gent. whose Mistresse name was Field, saying in a morning to a friend of his: See how I am all bedewed with comming ouer yonder field? The other answered: Rather is it with lying all night in the field.

One Beast was suspected to haue cowardly beaten and bruised a weaponlesse poore fellow by night, & he stoutly denying it before a Justice, a Gentleman that stood by said: Out of doubt if a beast did it not, it was done like a Beast, who ere did it.

Certaine Gentlewomen wher eating of a Posset, & they all commended how good it was: A Gentleman of the company for contradiction sake said: No it is not good: Whereunto one of the Gentlewomen answered: You say what it is not, but you doe not say what it is.

A Gentlewoman that had two Paramours, the one called Spot, the other Fuller: One merrily said of her, hauing a Fuller, I meruaile she can haue ere a Spot.

EXTRAVAGANT SPEACH.

One being in danger of drowning, another standing on the shore said vnto him: Get to yonder stoping tree, and you are safe: Tut, (he answered) tell not me of getting or gaining, for I care but only to saue my selfe at this time.

A Spanish Gent. looking out at his window after a corse that was carried out of his house to be buried, said:

Oh

Oh, how hard a matter were it to thruſt me out of houſe, ſeeing to carry a dead man hence is foure mens trauaile?

A Spaniard ſeeing in a towne of Flanders all the Saints Images defac'd and broken, & anon after noting in the ſtreetes a many faire houſes downe, the chimneyes onely ſtanding, ſaid: It had beene meete when theſe ruines were a doing, that the Prieſts had conuay'd the Saintes into theſe chimneyes, and the Cittizens their houſes into the Church for Sanctuary. Whereunto another adioyn'd: Thus you ſee where Lutheranes preuaile Saintes goe to wracke.

One being ask'd what he made in thoſe parts: he anſwered, I haue not done any good deeds to be yet in heauen.

A Father comming to ſee his ſonne dreſt of a wound in the face, ſaid: It would not haue greeu'd me halfe ſo much if it had beene in the arme, or in the legge, or in any other place but there: the ſonne anſwered: Oh father receiuers are no chuſers.

One asking one whether his brother were yet aliue: he anſwered: No, nothing liuely, but a very Lubber.

A Widdow Gentlewoman fearing leaſt her leane ſonne might haply conuerſe ouermuch a nights with his faire Bride, and thereby incurre a conſumption, bad often times to ſend him abroad about her buſineſſe ſome three or foure daies together, & ſo many nights: Which the yong Gentlewoman his wife tooke very vnkindly at her hands: inſomuch as on a time her husband being from home, and ſhe looking out at a windowe, and chancing to ſee a many Sparrowes ſitting in a buſh, ſhe skar'd them all away, ſaying: Faith (Sparrowes) you had beſt be gone leaſt my mother in law come and ſend you going with a witneſſe.

A Recuſant making water againſt a Church-wall, the Church warden ſeeing it, excepted thereunto, as prophanely done. Whereunto he anſwered: It is my Church, not yours.

A kind wife followed her husband to the gallowes, & he requeſting her not to trouble her ſelfe any further, ſhe anſwerd: Ah yes (deere husband) now that I am come thus far, faith I'le ſee you hang'd too (God willing) before I goe.

A Cooke seeing his fat wife sit straddling at the shop doore, said vnto her: Fie on thee (slut) shut vp that shop of thine. The good wife answered. The deuill take him that hath the key and doth it not.

One saying to his neighbour that he had a Pope in his belly, he answered: Better so yet, then a deuill in my heart.

Bishop Gardener seeing one of his men wait at the boord, with a monstrous great Codpeece prickt full of pinnes on the top, tooke a peece of bread and crumbled it towards him, saying: Cob, Cob, come Cob, Cob.

A Wench saying to one, Thou art an errand knaue, so thou art, to vse me so behinde my backe. By chance one comming by, & ouer-hearing it, said: Belike you would haue had it in your belly.

OF EVASIONS AND EXCVses in speach.

A Weauer that vsed to steale more yearne then his lawfull allowance, had a priuy place in his house where to hide it, which he cal'd hell: He whensoeuer any of his customers charg'd him with any such theft, vs'd thus to protest and sweare: If I haue any more then my due now I pray God in hell I may finde it.

AT the change of Religion heere in England, one Doctor Morgan was depos'd from his cure, to giue place to the Ministery. It chanced that being inuited certaine daies after to a dinner, whereat were present certaine Iustices & a many other worshipfull guests, he thus at dinner-time mumbled vnto himselfe: And is it euen so Morgan? Faith haue they so hardly dealt with thee: well (I assure them) it shall cost many a mans life for it, ere I haue done. Such his mumblement being ouer-heard, came afterwards in question to his danger, as seeming to proceede of a treasonable discontent with the present state: and being brought to his answere,

answere, he thus iustified his speech, saying: I confesse I spake the wordes, and it is true that the losse of my Benifice is like to cost manie a mans life: For hauing now no other trade to liue by, then Physicke (wherein as yet I am altogether vnskilfull,) it is likely that my too timely practise will be the death of many a one.

A Mad-man rusht into a chamber with a drawne sword: And finding one there a bed, would haue slaine him, saying: Villaine, were it not valiantly done to strike off thy knaues head at one blow: Th'other answered: Tut (sir) that's nothing with your worship to doe, you can as easilie strike off two heads at one blow as one: Wherefore, if you please, I'le goe downe and call vp another, that you may strike off both our heads at once: The Mad-man beleeu'd him, and so let him slip away.

A Noble-man in this land call'd a Doctor errand knaue, and the Doctor answered: God (my Lord) I would be loth to be so errand a knaue as your Lordship. (And hereat he made a pawse, as faining to spet, and then adioyned,) Takes me to be.

A Widow Gentlewoman suspecting that a young Gallant, who was a suter to her faire daughter, had priuily deflour'd her, and in that respect, vnlesse he would take a booke-oath to the contrary, she swore shee would giue no portion with her: The Gent. knowing himselfe guilty, tooke the Testament in his hand, and thus aenigmatically swore: I heere protest by the holy contents of this booke before you, that neuer in all my life, did I knowe this Gentlewoman your daughter carnally, as you or any other may imagine, but (indeede) I confesse, I kist her, and imbrac'd her, and toy'd with her, as I haue done with many Gentlewomen more in my daies, and yet neuer any dishonestly came of it.

One being reprehended for liuing all to sloath-fully: he answered: We are not bound to giue accompt of our sloath, but of our labours.

One saying to a Gent. Sir, it were very good you tolde such a one of his faults, that he may amend them: He answered: It is ynough that I thinke him a Knaue,

though I tell him not so to his face.

One saying to a Gent. Faith, having so much intrest in N. as you haue, mée thinkes you might easily byrdle his passions: he answered, I am no Horse-courser.

A Clowne having surfeited of Béefe, and being therewith extreame sicke, vow'd neuer whiles he liu'd to eat Béefe more, if it pleased God he might escape for that once: Shortly after having his perfect health againe, he would néedes haue eaten Béefe, and his sister putting him in minde of his vowe, he answered: True (sister) not without mustard, (good L.) not without mustard.

SENCE REVERSED BY IDENtitie of speech.

A Poore Carpenter, yet a good work-man, was imploi'd to the building of a Bridge, wherein he became so good a gainer, that it set him vp for euer. And in one of the maine postes thereof he had engrauen these wordes: (Sanchio Rodriguez made this Bridge.) Another came after, and wrote vnderneath with a coale. (This Bridge made Sanchio Rodriguez.)

One called another foole, who answered: Indéede, so may I séeme, because I speake in such sort as you may vnderstand me.

One chiding his sonne for lying long a bed a mornings, told him that such a one with rising early in a morning chanced to finde a bag of Gold: The sonne answered: Too early rose hée (Father) that lost it.

A Gentleman leading a faire Gentlewoman by the hand through a darke ruinous roome, said vnto her: Lord, what a sweet roome were this, were not you in it? She answered: A sweet roome were this, were not you in it.

A Prentise hearing a Tinker crying in the stréet, (Haue you any worke for a Tinker) bid him goe to Banbery: The Tinker answered: I, there (boy) beléke thy Father was

was hang'd: he reply'd, Why would he be a Tinker then.

One seeing an olde Petty fogger in the streete, writing downe a memorandum in his note-booke, said vnto him: Why how now (Grandsire) What a scribbling make you there? he answered: I register such knaues as you.

OF IMPROPER SPEECH.

One vs'd an improper tearme to a Falkoner, saying, that his Hauke dung'd: The Falkoner told him, that he shold haue said, Muted: Anon after this fellow stumbled, and fell into a Cow share, and the Falkoner asking him how he came so beray'd; he answered, In a Cow mute.

A Country-Gent. going to buy Hogges, some fiue or sixe myles from home, came to a Farmers house, who had some to sell, and chancing on the sudden to see his fair daughter as he entred in at the doore, he mistooke his tearmes, and said vnto her: If Hogges you bring forth, they must needes be faire Hogges: Hee would haue said: If you bring forth these Hogges to see, they must needes be faire Hogges.

One asking a friend of his in a deare yeare, how he liued? the other answered: In truth, I now liue by the ayre, like a Torturion.

Diuers being talking of the wits and policies of men, and who was a most exact Polititian? A plaine fellow standing by, said: Well, you may talke what you will: But there is not a better Magitian for the common-wealth, then maister N. I dare assure you.

One telling a plaine fellow, that diuers were in such a place talking euill of him, he said: O that I had now but an Inuincible cloake, that I might but stand amongst them and not be seene.

One was a boasting how little he fear'd the Plague, and said: Were I to goe to the Deuill, I would neuer feare the Plague.

A Country-man being at the Tearme, and hearing much rumour that my Lord of Leceſter had won a Sconce in the Low countries, told his neighbours for newes when he came home, that my L. of Leceſter had won a Lanterne.

A Plaine fellow came to borrow his neighbours Boze, and asked him what he would doe with it? hee anſwered: Mary, to take his pleaſure of my Sowe.

A Country-man ſent his ſonne, with a Basket full of Chickens to his Land-Lady, and the Swame to be very fine, ſaid: Miſtreſſe, my father hath ſent you heere a neſt of Peeps.

A Scowld was a ſaying, what a ſkuruie knaue is hee to vſe me ſo behinde my backe? A Gentleman by chance paſſing by, and ouer-hearing it, anſwered: Well might he ſo doe, all were he not ſkuruie.

OF EMBLEMES POESIES AND Endorcements.

THe Marques of Corteſe wonted to ſay, that he that wants friends is like a Hony combe without hony, an eare without corne, a tree without fruite.

A Religious Dame cauſ'd her picture to be drawne, holding her little Childe in one hand, and a Bible in the other, and ouer the Bible was written my Ioy, and ouer the Childe, my Comfort.

A Gentlewoman was reading the poeſie of another gentlewomans ring, and it was, God helpe me. A third Gentlewoman ſtanding by, aſk'd her what it was? She anſwered: A very paltrie one.

DOn Alvaro de Ayala gaue the halfe Mone in his Creſt, & a Page of his ſeeing it engrauen vpon a wall, wrote vnderneath it with a coale, *Nunca llena*: viz. Bee it neuer at full: His Maiſter checking him therefore, and asking him why he wrote ſo? hee anſwered: Marie (Sir) becauſe the Mone being once at full, ofcorce it muſt decreaſe.

A New

A New married Bride had her picture drawne, holding in her hand ouer-thwart her belly, a Bay branch, full of grẽn leaues, whereof one sprig was made mounting vpwards toward her heart, and another downe towards her priuy part, and it was written vpon the ouer-thwart branch thus: Fetch'd from the field, let me neuer wither: and vpon the vpper sprig, Hether, and vpon the lower Thether.

ONe Peter in a Christmas time, at my L. Keepers had written vpon the backe side of a whole paire of Cards seuerall Poesies, to be drawne by the Christmas company & assembly there, & amongst others this was one.

Englands high Empresse great Ioue defend and blesse her,
And keepe in health (good Lord) my good L. Keeper.
Keepe all awake, that none be found a sleeper,
And keepe me too, thy faithfull seruant Peter.

ONe seeing his enemies Armes drawn vpon a wall with a coale, drew the like vnderneath, and in the first house drew his said enemies chiefe coate, and all the rest of the escutchion he figured with twenty kindes of pots, cups, and drinking glasses, and wrote vnderneath, thus: These my fore-fathers left me, and I will increase them.

A Widdow Countesse vs'd to subscribe all her Letters thus: The dolefull Countesse N. Writing a letter to a plaine Bayliffe of hers in the country, she so subscrib'd it: and he in answere thereto, subscrib'd his letter thus: Your dolefull seruant R.

ONe who had married a Gentlewoman far his better in degrée and calling, wrote her a letter, and subscrib'd it thus: Your worships base husband N.

A Noblemans Secretary in a letter which he wrote for his Lord to an vpstart Gent, interlined therein this word Senior: The gallant was hereat in a pelting chafe, as supposing it done purposely to taunt his ignobility: Which the Nobleman vnderstanding by the bearer, will'd his Secretary in his next letter to leaue out Senior for good and all, & to leaue a great blanck ouer the Letter, and as much margine on either side: The secretary did so: Then the Nobleman in a seuerall peece of paper, wrote with his owne hand

this

this word Senior in faire large Letters, & subscrib'd vnderneath it thus. I send you this word (Senior) written with my owne hand, as acknowledging you a Gent. and withall haue left you space ynough both in the front of my letter, as also in either margin thereof to dispose it where you best please.

TO a very olde Gentlewoman, whose name was Mistresse Touseners, one endorc'd his letter thus. To the worshipfull, &c. mistresse Thousand yeares giue this.

A Suter wrote a whole loue-letter to his Mistresse word for word out of Amadis de Gaule: who when she had read it, and remembred from whence he had it, she deliuer'd it againe to the bearer, saying: Friend, you mistake, this Letter is to mistresse Laureola.

A simple Scholler endorc'd his letter to his father thus: To my very obedient good father, &c.

OF SIMILIES.

A Merry Gent. seeing among a many faire young Ladies, one olde withered Beldame, said: Loe, there a Deaths head at the end of a Rosary.

ONe beholding a house faire caru'd and wrought towards the top, and rude & rough belowe, said it was like a womans smocke.

ONe that had but heere and there a scatttred haire on his chinne: Another said it was like a country-parish wasted with plague.

ONe being ask'd why he refus'd to answere one that had highly abus'd him in outragious tearmes: he answered: I am like a deafe man in a Belfrie, that heares not the jangling of the Belles.

A Pore Gent. made an olde Seruiture of his his horse-keeper, and hauing but one horse in all the world, it was noted that when he rode abroad, his man staid at home, & when his man rode forth, then he staid at home: Where-

upon

vpon one merrily compar'd them to Castor and Pollux, two starres in the Firmament, whereof one appearing in the eueing, assone as euer the other begins to shew, straight peepes in his head, and vanisheth out of sight.

A Gentlewoman in a solemne festiuity, danced with a young Gallant a most lofty Leualto: & a Noble man there present, said, shee resembled the crowne of a good felt hat, sone downe, sone vp.

A Nolde Marchant had hanging at his girdle a pouch, a spectacle case, a punniard, a pen and inckhorne, and a hand kertcher, with many other trinkets besides: Which a merry companion seeing, said: It was like a Habberdashers shop of small wares.

A Man and his wife were a chiding together, & in came a friend of theirs, and besought them to forbeare one another, and agree as became man & wife: Whereunto he answered: know yee that my wife & I are like a paire of cards, still in shuffle with one another all day long, and at night in a lumpe together like good friends.

One seeing a Gentlewoman whose face was pure red and white, said it was like a shoulder of Mutton new cut off from the breast.

A Gent. gaue a Gentlewoman a fine twisted bracelet of silke and golde, and seeing it the next day vpon another Gentlewomans wrest, said: It was like a Barbers girdle soone slipt from one side to another.

One hearing a bagpipe sownd il-fauourdly, said, it was like the noise of a Cat, whiles her taile is a cutting off.

One seeing another thrust out his head, as though hee stood harkening to somwhat, said, it was like the head of a Gitterne.

OF MONVMENTS.

AT Lisborn in the Stewards study of the Orphants hospitall, is painted in great Letters, these wordes vpon the wall.

Ante que des eſcrine, ante que firmes reciue: that is, Write before you pay, and receiue before you ſigne.

CHarles the ſeauenth French King, viewing the tombe of Iohn Earle of Bedford in our Ladies Church at Roane, a zealous Gallant of his traine thinking to doe a high ſcorne to Engliſh vallour, & pleaſe the King with ſuch his French folly, ſpurn'd the Monument with his foote, and mumbled out withall tearmes of diſgrace againſt the Ghoſt of that victorious Earle: Which the King ſeeing, and diſliking, ſaid: Oh (foole) ſcorne we not him dead, whome aliue we dreaded.

A Great Lady in this land walking with a merry Gent. in a Gallery, where were a many faire Antickе monuments both in picture and Alabaſter: Amongſt the reſt ſhe eſpied a marble ſtatue of a Siluan God, all in his nakednеſſe, and with very bountifull perpendiculars hanging downe below his belly before: Viewing it a good ſpace, in the end ſhe aſk'd the Gent. what it was like? he anſwered: It is one of the fiue Clearkes: One of the fiue Clearkes (quoth ſhe) how ſo I pray yée? he reply'd: Why? ſée you not (Madam) his huge Pen and Inke-horne?

The end of the ſixt part of this booke.

Wits, Fits, and Fancies.

The ſeauenth part.

OF DRVNKARDS.

A Gent. man was a great Drunkard, and falling off a ladder, broke his noſe, ſo as he was faine to weare a plaſter thereon, ſo great, as couered his noſe al ouer: which his maſter ſéeing, aſk'd him how it came to paſſe? One of his fellowes then ſtanding by, anſwered: And like your worſhip

worthip, he is fayne to caſe his noſe (as you ſée) for feare to runne it againſt Tauernes.

A Flemming had drunke fiue quartes of wine all alone in a Tauerne, and there lay ſnoring vnder the bord: At laſt he awaked and was ſober, & the Drawer ask'd him money for fiue quartes: he anſwered, Why (man) that can not be, for my belly neuer holds aboue 5. quartes at a time: Yes, (anſwered the Drawer) the wine being paſſing good, one quart fum'd vp into your head, and then the other fiue in your belly make fiue, ſo is there fiue quartes. You haue reaſon (ſaid the Fleming) and ſo paid him for fiue quartes.

A Great Drunkard lying ſicke of a burning Feuer, ſaid vnto his Phiſition: I would haue you cure my heate, but not my thirſt.

A Doctor of phiſicke aduiſ'd a great Drunkard that had but one eye, to beware of wine, leaſt he loſt the other: he anſwered: Nay, Better deſtroy a window then a whole houſe.

One aduiſ'd a great Drunkard ſtill to mingle water with his wine: he anſwered, If that were good, God would haue done it in the Grape.

A Rich Drunkard miſus'd a poore man in tearmes, and the poore man being big and groſſe ſaid vnto him: Sir, if you pleaſe not to forbeare me for my owne ſake, yet (I beſeech you) forbeare me becauſe I am like a Tub.

A Drunkard that had ſcarce ere a good tooth in his head, one thus beieſted him, ſaying, that the continuall water-courſe had quite borne away his quearnes.

Becauſe King Phillip is the nobleſt Duch-bloud at this day in all the world, and a Duch-man the greateſt drunkard, therefore a Spaniard diſpraiſing one for drunkennes, ſaid: Thou art euen as errand a drunkard as King Phillip.

A Drunkard paſſing ouer a bridge, his eyes ſo glar'd that he thought they were two bridges, and ſtepping vpon the wrong bridge, downe he tumbled in the brooke, where drinking his belly full of water, he continued, ſaying: No more now Hoſteſſe, no more now.

A Merry Officer of London passing by an Alehouse, wher he saw a couple of good fellows a drinking, stept in vnto them, & ask'd them who they were? They answered: Clearke of S. Magnes, and Sexten of Boe: He then adioyn'd: And I Recorder of London: Hey (hostesse) fill in my pot too.

IN a countrey parish an Alehouse stood close by the church porch, and the Vicar saying service on a time, ouer-heard certaine good fellowes a quaffing and carrolling in the said Alehouse: Whereupon he fell from the function, and said: Sirs, it is no reason that yonder fellowes should partake of our prayers, and we not tast of their Ale: And with that he shut vp his booke and to the Alehouse he went, and all the parish after him.

ONe put a frogge into a Dutch-mans pot, & he drinking swallow'd it cleane downe: Being ask'd whether he felt not any thing in his draught, he answered: No, nothing but a little mote.

OF NOSES.

ONe had a Nose like a bunch of grapes, and passing along the street, two women met him, and seeing such a nose, stood still a while, & gazed thereupon: He asking them why they stood still and went not about their busines: they answered: because your nose stands in our way: With that he wry'd his nose aside with his finger, and sayd: On (ye whores) for (toe) now way is made yee.

ONe that had a huge nose hearing another say that in Germany, theeues are punished with diminution of their noses, said: Then will I goe into Germany, and commit some halfe dozen roberies there, and so returne home againe both rich and with a better nose.

ONe was a saying that he greatly marueil'd at Iohn a-Nokes his great nose: an other answered: Say not so but thus: that you greatly marueill at Iohn of Noses: for in saying so, you giue the lesse to the greater, & otherwise, the greater to the lesse, which is improper.

One

One that had a mighty noſe, and a very thin beard, another commented thereupon, ſaying, that the ſhadow of his noſe hindred the growth of his beard, as doth the ſhadow of the Docke the growing up of the Nettle.

In Spaine it is a law, all ſwords and Rapiers to be of one length: A huge nos'd Conſtable tooke one with a Rapier above that ſhantling, and tooke it from him, and cauſ'd it to be cut ſhorter, & then deliuer'd it him againe, ſaying: Know ye now from henceforth, that the law alowes all too much to be diminiſhed: Th'other anſwered: Diminiſh then your noſe.

A Mighty noſ'd Courtier hauing retir'd himſelfe for a time, into the country, ask'd a friend of his that came from the court, what newes was ſaid of him there: hee anſwered: Your Noſe.

One ſeeing a great drunkard with a huge noſe all to beſet with pimples blue and red, ſaid, it was the ſoule of the wine aſcended into the region of his noſe, and thoſe pimples the Meteors that redounded thereof.

Sir Thomas Moores Lady was very curious and neat in her attire, and going one day to Church, ſhe bid her Gentlewoman look whether her gown pleats ſtood euen behinde, and whether all were well and right about her: Sir Thomas himſelfe then ſtanding by, and noting her curioſity, and withall her wry noſe, ſaid: Faith (wife) there is yet one fault more then your maid ſees, neither do I well ſee how it can be holpen. She being then very earneſt with her Gentlewoman to finde it out, and halfe out of patience that ſhe was ſo long a looking it, at laſt ask'd Sir Thomas what fault it was: he merrily anſwered: Your noſe.

OF BREATH.

A Great toſted cheeſe-eater had baited his trappe with cheeſe, and another ſeeing it, ſaid vnto him: What needs you bait your Trap with cheeſe? doe you but ſleepe with your mouth wide open a nights, and

all the Wise in the chamber will enter thereinto.

One asking a Cony catchers man, how it chanced his breath stunke so sore? he answered, with keeping my maisters counsell.

OF FACE AND SKARRES.

A Gent. not the best fauour'd, came early in a colde winters morning to visit a Gentlewoman, & by reason the frost had sore nipt his nose, & somewhat bluly disfigured it, she said vnto him: Lord (maister N.) how il-fauourdly you looke this morning? he answer'd. Faith neither of vs both looke very well when we are at the best.

One that with overmuch fasting and austere life, had wrought himselfe exceeding pale & leane in the cheekes, another seeing him, said: Lord how yonder poore wretch hath terrifi'd himselfe with fasting.

One disprais'd vnto his friend a certaine Gentlewomans hard fauour, and said: if you saw her by day, you would loath her by night.

A Gentleman entring into a prison to visit a friend of his, the porter (who had a great skarre in his face) demaunded his weapon: The Gent. gaue it him, saying: Hold here (friend) and see thou make much of it, for (I assure thee) it is not it that did thee that disgrace, pointing to his face.

A Gent. having a quarrell with a neighbour of his, sent vp and downe the country for hackstars and good fellowes: Among others, two that had vgly great skarres in their faces proffred him their seruice: which he refus'd, saying: Bring me them that gaue you those skarres.

A Maid accus'd a sterne fac'd fellow before a Justice, affirming that he had ravish'd her, & the Justice asking him whether it were true, he answered: Your Worship sees my face, other force I offred none.

A Gent. ſaying to a foule fac'd fellow: How like you yonder maide: he ſeeing her il fauour'd, anſwered: like me.

OF BEARD.

One that had a buſh-beard, and vſ'd euermore to ſweare thereby, an other ſaid vnto him: Keeping no Ale-houſe, what make you ſweare ſo by your buſhe.

A Iudge condem'd a red-bearded fellow to be whipt at a Cartes taile: And it was afterwards euident that he was innocent of the fact: The Iudge being tolde aſmuch, anſwered: Yet is he iuſtly whipt for hauing a red beard.

OF BLINDNES.

A Poore mans eye was ſtroken out with a ſtone, and it hung onely by a little ſtring: Going preſently to a Surgion to haue it put in againe, he whiles the Surgion was buſie about his preparatiues and trinkets, ſaid vnto him: How thinke you I (pray) ſhall I loſe my eye: No (anſwered the Surgion) for (behold) I haue it here in my hand.

A Gentlewoman who was blinde of one eye, her rude husband call'd her euermore both in mirth and anger blinde buſſard: Certaine ſtrangers being at dinner with him on a time, a Gent. of the company was alſo blinde of one eye, and he then calling his wife blinde Buſſard, adioyned afterwards to pleaſe the Gentleman, Sir, I meane not you, I meane the the blinde Buſſard my wife.

One endors'd his letter to a blinde-man, thus:

To him that but by ſmelling knowes,
Nor good, nor bad before his noſe.

This be deliuered.

A Schoole-maister raising vp his Schollers early in a morning, said vnto them: I hauing but one eye, can see to rise at breake of day, and you with each of your two eyes can scarse see day at noone.

A Blinde man married a faire wife, and on the marriage day hee all to imbrac'd and kist her before all the company: Shee in modestie requested him to forbeare till night: he answered: May (Mouse) all is night with mee.

A One-ey'd Gent. seru'd a very browne Mistresse, who on a time being sullenly disposed, fore bestouted such his eyes defect: and hee in reference to her swart complexion, answered: I pray, be not you like the Sable-Crowe that still pickes at the eye. Take it interrogatiuely & it soundes better.

A Seruing-man hauing but one eye, came into a Fence-Schoole, and play'd with another at fence, & it was his chance to haue th'other eye strucken out too: Hee then seeing himselfe al in darke, laid downe the foyles, and said vnto the company: My maisters, God giue you all good night.

One that had but one eye, saying to another: How say yee, will you play with me for an eye: th'other answered, I, but how will you see to play and stake too?

OF FAT AND GROSSE.

One Hoopes was apprehended vpon suspition of Felonie, & two very big men came to bayle him: The Iustice being thicke of hearing, ask'd a Sarseant by, what they said, who answered: Mary, (Sir) these Tubbes are come for Hoopes.

A Bigge Iustice going in Circuit, a plaine country-man came to him & said. I humbly beseech your Highnesse to doe mee Iustice: he answered, Thou hadst said better, My Bignesse to doe thee iustice.

One proffered his friend his big and fat daughter in marriage, and withall a very rich portion. The other gaue

gaue him harty thanks therefore, and ſaid: One quarter of her will ſerue my turne well ynough, wherefore you may doe well to ſeeke her out ſome other husbands for the reſt.

ONe ask'd an aged man, how it chanced that he being of thoſe yeares, he continued ſo fat withall: he anſwered: Neuer was I yet a husband nor a ſeruant.

A Gentlewoman commending a Gent. to his face, and ſaying, that he was a goodly big man: he anſwered: All that is great is not good, but all that is good is great.

ONe ſeeing a big fat Gent. and a leane Gent. ſtanding together, ſaid: Loe yonder Shroue-tyde and Lent.

OF LEANES.

A Gent. tared a Gentlewoman of ouer much leanneſſe, and ſhe anſwered: Small and delicate is the needle at the end of a Goad, that pricks the Oxe forward.

OF a very leane gentlewoman that had no more breaſts then a boarde, one ſaid: That ſhee was like a Henne robb'd of all her garbadge.

ONe ſeeing a groſſe man and a leane man ſtanding together, ſwore, that he neuer in all his life, ſaw a Lute and a Gitterne better conſorted.

VPon the Tombe of a very leane Lady this Epitaph was engrauen:

Here in this graue repoſe a Ladies bones,
As full of fleſh as when they were liuing ones.

A Leane Gentlewam. whoſe ſeruants name was Ounce-bread, one thus beieſted her to her face: It ſeemes (quoth he) you eate not aboue an ounce of bread at a meale.

OF CROOKEDNES AND Lameneſſe.

THe Duke of Medina Celi hauing a crook'd backe-Lady to his wife, ask'd his Ieſter on a time, what hee thought

of his ſtately new hall at Madredejos: The Vice anſwered: A ſtately hall indeed (my L.) and a tall, yet cannot my Lady your Lady ſtand vpright therein.

A Crookback'd Plaintiffe, beſought a Iudge to doe him right, and the Iudge anſwered: Wel may I heare you, but right I cannot doe ye.

A Blinde man of one eye met his bunch back'd neighbour early in the morning, and ſaid vnto him: Good morrow (neighbour) what, your burthen on your backe ſo rare in a morning? The bunch backe anſwered: If it be morning (as you ſay) how chances it you haue but one window yet open?

SOme body hauing ſtolne away a ſtump'd-footed fellowes ſhoes: hee ſaid: Now, I pray God who euer hath them, well may they fit him.

ONe ſeeing a very miſhapen and croked perſon in the ſtreete ſaid, that he had a Camell to his Nurſe.

A Gent. ſeeing a monſtrous yll-fauor'd and croked woman in the ſtreete, ſaid vnto his companion: See yonder: The more a man can finde in his heart to hate her, the better may hee loue the deuill.

A Captaine diſpatching a lame ſouldier out of his band, the ſouldier mal-content ſaid vnto him: The warres need no men that can run away, but ſuch as can bide by it.

ONe quarrelling with a lame man, threatned that he wold make him ſet his foot ſtraight ere he had done: The lame man anſwered: In ſo doing I will accompt you my friend.

OF CHILDREN.

ONe ſaid to a little child whoſe father died that morning, & was layd out in a coffin in the Kitchin, Alas my pretty child, thy father is now in heauen: the child anſwered, Nay, that is he not: for he is yet in the Kitchin.

THe Earle of Aymonte vſ'd to ſay, that he is luckily vnlucky that hath no children.

One

One who had 8. daughters, his wife was brought a bed of a ninth, & as soone as it was christened, it died: He seeming to take it very heauily, a friend of his came to comfort him, & said: Hauing so many faire daughters besides, what need you lament so grieuously for the losse of one? He answered: Thy giue mee leaue, for this was truly a good one.

One vsed to say that the benefit of children is, that now and then they tattle somewhat which delights the father, whereby they partly mittigate his misery at their mothers hands.

A Gent. walking without his gate, saw certaine waggs trottring vpon a cart, and all to brake it, and hee sore rated them therefore: in the meane time came by a neighbour of his, who ought this carte, and the Gentleman asking him whether he went, hee answered: To seeke out a Herod to auenge mee of these boyes.

A Phisition discharged a Caliuer at an old Physicke booke which was left him by his Grandfather, and it was his hap to shoot it cleane through; which his little child standing by, and seeing, said: I warrant you (father) my grandfather neuer coulde it through halfe so soone.

The father forgot to giue his little child meate at dinner Whereupon the child pray'd him to giue him some salt: Salt (said the father) and wherefore salt (my boy?) Marie father (he answered) for the meat you are to giue mee.

One whose name was Blackmere was a very foule blackeman, and he had a very faire childe: Whereupon a friend of his meeting him in a morning with his said little one in his armes, said vnto him: Why how now? what, a Black a Moore turned to white?

A Schoole-maister whose name was Salter read Terence to his Schollers in a country-parish: A goodman and his wife were at ods about their pottage at dinner time, he finding fault that they were to salt, and shee affirming that they were to fresh: At last the goodman said to his little boy, there at dinner with them: Tell me (Iacke) how saist thou? are these pottage fresh or salte? The boy answered: They may very well read Terence (Father.)

A Passenger returning back by a blinde Ale house, where hée had laine that day seauen-night afore, desir'd his Host to boile him a ioynt of powder'd Veale, such as hée prouided him the time before, saying, it was the best meate that euer he eate. You shall sir (answered the Host) and so departed: With that a little childe of his standing by, saide vnto the Passenger: If my Father should lose a horse euery weeke, it would be deare Veale to him.

A Physitions childe was sicke of a burning feauer, and he forbad his folke in any case to giue him water to drinke: The childe hearing such his Fathers encharge, within a while after call'd for a little holy-water to drink, which they telling maister Doctor of, hée then said: What (a deu'll) doth the Ape call for water from heauen? May, then let him haue it, or any other water besides.

One that toke vpon him much gentrie, & was no Gent. his little sonnes were a tumbling in a heape of strawe in the stréete, which a Gentleman (a neighbour of his) séeing out at his window, said vnto his wife: I were a good déede yonder gallowses were whipp'd: sée how they tumble and bedust themselues in the strawe: she answered: No, let them alone, for it faire betokens their Gentrie.

The Countesse of Beneuente aduis'd a Gentlewoman her neighbour, not to dote too dearly vpon her little Babe least the losse of it should grieue her all to nérly.

OF AGE.

One that had a white head and a blacke beard, another ask'd him how it came to passe: hee answered, Marie, the haire of my head is twenty yeares older then my beard.

A Noble man had attain'd to 86. yeares of age, & neuer in all his life had taken phyticke: At last he sickened verie grieuously: and at the earnest instance of his friendes condiscended to take phisicke: Then came the Pothecary to him three or foure daies together with preparatiue

sirrops

ſirrops and potions; all which he receiued, and bid his man after the Pothecary was gone, to put it all together into a cloſe ſtoole. At laſt came maiſter Doctor himſelfe to viſit him, and viewing what filthy ſtuffe was in the cloſe ſtoole, hée ſaid: Sir, you are a happy man to be rid of theſe bad humours in your body: See here the benefite of Phiſicke, and your life preſerued: The Noble man anſwered: Gramercie cloſe-ſtoole.

ONe aſk'd an olde man how long he had liu'd: hée anſwered: A while, but a great many yeares.

ONe vſed to ſay, that a man being once arriued to 50. ought rather bethinke himſelfe to receiue death well, then to enlarge his life longer.

ONe meeting an olde man all trembling on his ſtaffe, ſaid vnto him: The houſe that is once come to prop, is neare falling.

ONe being demaunded what was an old mans greateſt difficultie, hée anſwered: To affoord rewardes.

ONe vſed to ſay, that an olde man to cheere himſelfe daintily, is to make his death more bitter.

ONe wonted to ſay, that of all auarice th'olde mans is worſt, conſidering that to hoord vp treaſure in the age of death when a man is not likely to liue to ſpend it, is extreame follie.

AN olde Gent wonted to ſay, that three thinges were increaſt vnto him by olde age: viz. To ſée more, to doe more, and command more: To ſée more, by reaſon hée was faine to vſe ſpectacles to make his letters ſeeme the greater: To doe more, in that alighting off his horſe, he was readie to drawe the ſaddle after him: To command more, for that hée was faine to ſpeake twentie times, before ere he could get his men to ſtirre.

AN olde Gentlewom. going to the houſe of office, eſpy'd a looking glaſſe that lay there vpon a ſhelfe: Taking it, and viewing herſelfe therein, and ſéeing how wrinkled and yllfauour'd ſhe was ſhe threw it downe againe, ſaying: Fie on thee falſe and yllfauour'd glaſſe: Euen for being ſuch, it is meete thou lie in ſuch an obſcure place as this.

A Old man viewing himselfe in a loking-glasse all wrinkled and hoarie, his eyes deepe sunke into his head, and his cheekes also for want of teeth, said: Lord, to see the difference of loking-glasses: I remember when I was a young man I toke pleasure to view my selfe in a glasse, so well mettled were they in those dayes.

A Olde Noble man lay in the same chamber, in a seuerall bed from his Lady, and rising one night to put himselfe vnto her, he chanced to stumble his nose against the bed-sted: wherewith she awaking, and saying: who is there: he answered: Somewhat it was (Lady) was comming towards you, but now it is downe againe.

A Young Gentlewoman had bestowed her selfe vpon an old Knight whose name was Steuen Templer: Whereupon one merrily said, that she had buried her selfe quick in the Tombe of an old Knight of the Temple.

A Old Gentlemans young cozen all in loue, meeting him in a morning, said vnto him: Olde sir, sweete loue beseemes not your yeares: he answered, If you meane it by me, know ye that in my country a man of fifty yeares is accounted younger then an Asse of fifteene.

OF GARRVLITY.

A Talkatiue Gentlewoman had loll most of her teeth, and asking a Phisition the cause of it, she being both young and healthy, he answered: Your tongue beats to much against your teeth.

One that had a long skar in his face, and was exceeding talkatiue, a friend of his said vnto him: Hauing the Reanes in your cheeke, me thinkes you should haue the bridle in your mouth:

Vpon a passing talkatiue Gentlewomans Tombe this Epitaph was engrauen.

Heere lies interr'd a most renowned Dame,
Whose lips no closure euer misbecame.

But

But as ſhe liu'd, and neuer linn'd to talke,
So now in death ſhe leaues each tongue to walke
In daily tittle tattle of ſuch her fault.

SIr Thomas Moore hearing one tell a monſtrous lie, ſaid: I would not for any good heare him ſay his Créd, leaſtit ſhould ſéeme a lie.

OF DREAMES.

A Ieſter begg'd a garment of Don Alonſo de Aguilar, and ſaid: Sir, I dream'd this laſt night that you gaue me that garment vpon your backe, how like you my dreame? he anſwered: Auant drunken knaue beléeue no dreames.

OF SICKNES.

A Delicate Gent. finding himſelfe ſomewhat diſtempered, ſent his water to a Phiſition, who ſéeing it to be very good, and arguing perfect health, came anon after to viſit the Gent. and ask'd him how he did? he anſwered: Sicke: How féele you your ſtomacke? Well: Is it euen ſo? (then ſaid the Doctor) Are you ſicke with eating well, and ſleeping well? I'le giue you ſomewhat ſhall ſone remedy all that.

ONe asking a Phiſition whether ſuch a one were not dangerous ſicke? he anſwered: No, not dangerous but in danger.

A Whole man asked a ſicke man in his fit, how he did? he anſwered: In reſpect of God, euen as you doe.

A Rich Farmer beſtow'd his daughter vpon an old, poore, and ſickly Gent. and comming on a time to viſite him ſicke abed, he met his daughter at the chamber doore, and asking

asking her how her husband did, she answered: Woe as he may for me (father:) You (for your part) to endow me with his blood, haue vndone my flesh.

A Gent. being extreame sicke, his kinsmen will'd him in any case to send for a Phisition: he answered, No (I pray) let me die at leisure.

A Sicke Gent. was forbidden to drinke wine, and being extreame hot and thirstie, he besought the Physitions to permit him one draught & no more: They through his much importunitie condiscended (condition) he to drinke a draught of water presently after: So, off he drunke the wine: and then being afterward offered the water: he refus'd it, saying: Now am I not a thirst.

A Gent. being sicke of the dropsie, call'd for a draught of water: And his Physition will'd him in any case to forbeare, affirming that he could not liue aboue two houres at the most: Oh (answered the Gent.) then will I diue those two houres in water.

A Gentlewoman hauing surfeited of greene fruite, the Physition gaue her a vomit: And she in vomitting, cast vp also all the good meat she had eaten: which shee espying, said: Now is vertue punished with vice.

A Sick old woman asking her Physition how he thought she should die: he answered: euen as a leafe that can no longer bide vpon the tree: She reply'd: What? like an Orange leafe (I pray?)

OF TALNES & LITTLENES.

TWo sisters being in place together, whereof the younger was tall and a maide and th'other a wife & great with child, a Gent. in the company said vnto th'elder: How chanceth it your younger sister out groweth you in height? She answered: Because I out growe her in thicknesse.

A very

A Perceeding tall man preſenting his ſeruice to a great Prince, the Prince began to admire at his hugeneſſe, and he to make himſelfe leſſe monſtrous, ſaid: And pleaſe you Sir, I haue a Brother who doth farre exceede mee in euery proportion: what ſaid the Prince, had you a Gyant to your father?

A Very little Gent. riding on the way, out-rid his men a prettie way before: They meeting with a Traueller, ask'd him whether hee met not ſuch a Gent. before: he anſwered: Not any, onely I met ſome halfe mile hence a horſe that carried a hat vpon the ſaddle pummel, and a boote hanging downe on either ſide.

A Little Courtier ranne beſt at tilt before the Emperor Charles, and the waggs of the Court ſaid, that the paltry Ape did beſt.

A Very little man talking with a monſtrous Lunges, ſtept to a ladder by, and toke it, and reſted it againſt his ſhoulder, & began to climbe vp therupon: The Lunges marueilling thereat, ask'd him what (a Gods name) he ayl'd: hee anſwered: Marie, to th'end you may heare me.

One ſeeing a ſcab vpon a little Dandeprats hand, ſaid: Now ſee I that I neuer ſawe, a ſcabb vpon a hand-worme.

One ſeeing a dwarfe in the ſtreet of forty foure yeares olde, ſaide: If hee be as long ageing from a man, as hee is growing to a man, out of doubt the Ape will neuer dye.

A Chaunon of Toledo, who was a man of very lowe and ſlender ſtature, ſcoffingly ask'd a poore Fryer that had but one eye, what hee ayl'd to pray for at Gods hand, affirming that it were right neceſſarie he pray'd vnto him for another eye: Indeede ſir (anſwered the Fryer) I had neede haue two eyes, to diſcerne ſo pettie a goe by ground as you.

A Little prettie ſouldier diſmounted his foe-man, and ſaid: Now yeeld or dye: Th'other loked round about him, and anſwered: I ſee not to whome.

One being ask'd why he married ſo little a wife: hes anſwerd: Mi euills, the leaſt is beſt.

OF one that was a very tall & a big man, an other said, he was good to make a Porter, because if he should chance to finde the doore shut before, hée might discharge his packe in at the garret windowe.

ONe seeing a tall Lunges & a little man together, said: that it was like Paules steeple ouer S. Faithes Church.

A Tall personable man offered to accompany a dwarfe in the stréet, saying, that the people would the lesse gaze and wonder at his miserable littlenesse: The Dwarfe answered, Rather will they wonder at my folly, to sée me lead an Asse along by me, and not ride.

A Dwarfe woman falling in loue with an excéeding tall Gentleman, one ask't her how she durst hazard her selfe, to incounter with a man of his hugenesse: and she answered: Hath not a bushel poake, & a quarter sack mouthes of one widnesse.

A Gentleman séeing a very little woman, married to a most huge and corpulent man, ask'd her how she durst venture to lye vnder such a mountaine: and shee answered: Haue you not seene Sir, a little wormе lie vnder a mighty stone?

A Gentleman of a most excéeding lowe stature, standing to sée a pageant passe through the Citty, a girle of some fiue yeares olde chanced to stand before him: and he comanded her to stand away, but she intreated his patience, & then he in rage swore that if she did not stand away, shée could not sée the Pageant.

OF DEATH.

ONe said to another who had a very narrow mouth: Questionlesse, when you die, your soule will flie out at your breech.

A Gentleman being ferried ouer a riuer by a couple of boyes, the boat leaked, and was in danger of drowning:

The

The Gent. then seeing the danger said vnto them: God boyes, as ye are men rowe boyes.

A Gentleman lying very sicke a bed, heard a passing bell ring out, and said vnto his Physition: Tell me (maister Doctor) is ponder mustcke for my dancing?

A old Gent. in his death bed, ouerheard his wife praying at his beds feete, thus: Lord, I beseech thee, reuoke this dome of death from my deare husband, and let it light vpon me: Whereunto hee answered: Gramercie (good wife) I for my part am content, if God be agreed.

A Gentleman lying sicke at a Manour house of his call'd Ponde, would needs be remoued thence to another house which he had a foure or fiue miles off, and being ask'd why he so desir'd change, he answered: Because I list not die like a fish in a Ponde.

A Spanish Earle was a great swearer, and hunting one day in a Forrest, and hauing lost his company, ranging vp and downe in the darke, chanced to fall horse and man into a very deepe Mine-pit, where hee remained all that night, not forgetting in the meane time to bethinke himselfe of a many good thoughtes, and namely, among the rest he was right penitent of his sinne in swearing, vowing, that if it pleas'd God to deliuer him out of that pickle, hee would neuer whiles he liu'd sweare more. By chance his Spaniell being with him when hee fell, was so kinde as he would not depart from the place, but there remained bawling & howling all the while, till at last certaine Passingers trauelling that way the next morning, and ouer-hearing the Dogs piteous clamour, made to the place, and there looking downe into the pit, espy'd the Earle: And then with such tackles as they had about them drewe him vp, and set him on firme ground. When hee looking downe into the hole to see how deepe he had fallen, and seeing it very deepe, rapt out a legion of huge oathes, saying: Gogges woundes and his passion, is this a fit place for a Noble man to fall into.

A Gent. lying a dying, an olde woman came to visite him, and asking him before a great many there present, whether he knew her or no: hee answered: Yes full well, an errand

rand Baude thou art (so God shall helpe mee.) Then shee telling him that that was no meet time to slaunder his poore neighboure: he reply'd: Yes, it is best telling truth in the houre of death.

A Doctor being drawne along on a hurdle to execution, casting vp his eyes, and espying a multitude of people about him, said: *Deus bone, quot Corui circa vnum Cadauer.*

A Rich Churle and a begger, were buried at one time in the same Church-yarde, & the belles rung out amaine for the miser: Now, the Wiseacre his sonne and Executor, to the ende the world might not thinke that all that ringing was for the begger, but for his father, hyr'd a Trumpetter to stand all the ringing-while in the Belfrie, and betweene euery peale to sound his Trumpet, and proclaime aloute, & say: Sirres, this next peale is not for R. but for maister N. his father.

One telling a vertuous Gentlewoman that her picture was broken: shee answered, Then is but the shadow of a shadowe gone.

FINIS.

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